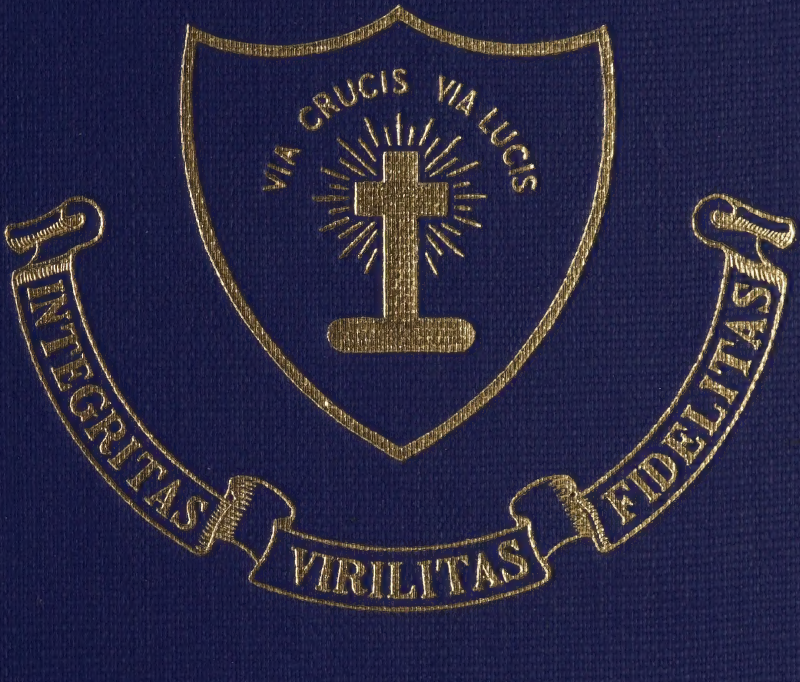
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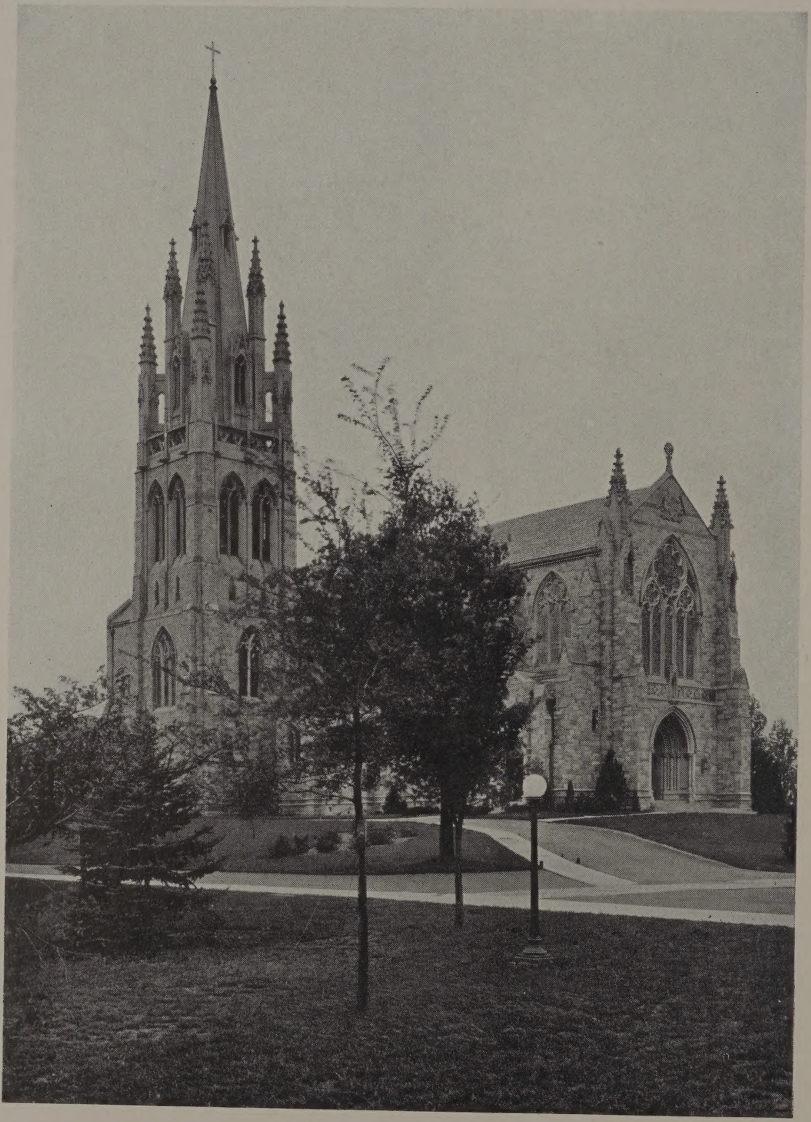
“The fortune of our lives and our government
depends not exclusively on useful knowledge
but on our character as citizens,
and to form this character by cultivating the whole man
is the aim of education in the proper sense.”

◆

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS RAUCH



THE MERCERSBURG ACADEMY MEMORIAL CHAPEL

A CENTURY OF EDUCATION AT MERCERSBURG

1836-1936

BY

H. M. J. KLEIN

Audenried Professor of History and Archaeology
in Franklin and Marshall College

1936

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To
The Memory and Service
of
The Loyal Friends
of
Mercersburg

PREFACE

THE Centenary Celebration of The Mercersburg Academy from October 9 to 11, 1936, is the occasion which called forth this book. A nationally famous headmaster said a few years ago that, while Mercersburg Academy was as fine as any of the New England schools, it lacked the background of tradition which the old schools possessed. In this statement he did not take into account that Pennsylvania was an old State, and that Mercersburg was the Oxford of Pennsylvania, the seat of the finest educational traditions of the Old and the New World for at least one hundred years.

I have tried, so far as possible, to write a documentary narrative, reproducing many of the letters, diaries, and records of earlier days which have never before been published. These old manuscripts have been widely scattered, only a limited number being preserved in the archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church, and in the Marshall College alcove of the Franklin and Marshall College Library in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Many valuable papers and records were lost when "Old Main" was destroyed by fire at Mercersburg in 1927. That was one reason why I was extremely anxious to reproduce as many of the remaining manuscripts as would fit into this narrative without breaking the continuity of the story.

In my efforts to document the volume, I have tried to give credit in the footnotes for all quotations; this ought at least to make the work of future research students in this field considerably less arduous. Many of the documents, notably the earlier Minutes of the Church Synod, were written and printed in German and had to be translated.

The appeal of the work may not be as popular as some may desire, but I believe it will have permanent documentary value as a study in nineteenth century educational ideals and methods. The fact that old Marshall College was a connecting link between the university ideals of Switzerland and Germany and the embryonic ideals of American higher education of a hundred years ago, gives an added interest to this study.

This book could not have been written without the gracious help of Mr. Daniel Heefner, who placed at my disposal the hundreds of letters of Dr. Irvine that he has gathered from widely scattered sources, and who, by a personal visit to the battlefields of Europe, has located the graves of all the Mercersburg men who laid down their lives in the World War.

My grateful acknowledgment is also due to two of my former research students, Richard D. Altick and J. Warren Hershey, both of whom graduated with honors from Franklin and Marshall College in the Class of 1936. Their interest and zeal in this work was a joy to their former teacher in the field of historical research.

Finally, I want to express my high appreciation to Dr. Edwards for his confidence and coöperation in a task which was both difficult and delightful—difficult because of the shortness of time permitted to finish the work, and delightful because it related to a subject in which I have had an intense personal interest for the greater part of my life. I am just two generations removed from the beginning of the educational movement in Mercersburg; Dr. Rauch had Dr. E. V. Gerhart as his favorite pupil, and I had the privilege in my student days of being a student and amanuensis under Dr. E. V. Gerhart. So the link of interest is very direct. My association with Dr. Irvine from student days through all the years of his magnificent achievement in the building of The Mercersburg Academy gave to my labors a touch of sadness as well as an enduring satisfaction.

To the many friends who have helped me in more informal ways, I can make only this general acknowledgment. My hope and desire is that the friends, alumni, and students of The Mercersburg Academy may find in these pages something to sustain and to increase still further their loyalty and service to this really great school for boys, and that students of history and education may find some things of interest and value in this study of a Century of Education at Mercersburg.

H. M. J. K.

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
August 8, 1936

INTRODUCTION

MY interest in this book is partly personal and partly professional. My personal interest is due to the fact that I am a native of Mercersburg and a classmate of Dr. Irvine in the Theological Seminary, and that I served as President of Franklin and Marshall College for twenty-six years—an institution that shares in all the history and traditions of old Marshall College and which has been indebted to Mercersburg Academy for many of its students.

My professional interest in the book lies in the fact that the story of higher education in Mercersburg for a century forms a vital part of the fascinating and romantic narrative of American education in its formative period. The struggles of the Church to establish schools for the training of its ministers, the transit of Old World ideals to the soil of a new continent, the sacrifices and hardships of great scholars and saintly souls, the pranks and privations of students of an earlier day—all these are found in the story of the many and varied institutions on Seminary Hill in the Cumberland Valley.

My father, Thomas Gilmore Apple, was the first President of Mercersburg College, successor of Marshall College and forerunner of Mercersburg Academy. The names of Rauch, Nevin, Schaff, Harbaugh, and Higbee were household words in my boyhood days, and linked with the names of Irvine and Edwards will continue, I trust, to be an inspiration to the youth of many generations.

Character is formed in the secondary and preparatory schools of our country. Reverence for religion, high ideals of citizenship, the spirit of leadership and service to fellowmen are attributes which must be instilled by precept and example in the hearts and minds of each succeeding generation of boys if civilization is to endure. To these ideals of highmindedness and thorough intellectual preparation for collegiate work, The

Mercersburg Academy is dedicated. There is no finer or more worthwhile school for boys in America.

The reader will find inspiration in this rich epic of a significant epoch in American education with its heroic lives and sacrifice. Therefore I rejoice in the celebration of a century of educational enterprise at Mercersburg, and I commend this volume to those of our citizens who are interested in the story of the education of American youth.

HENRY HARBAUGH APPLE,
President Emeritus of
Franklin and Marshall College,
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
August 8, 1936

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Chapter I

Beginnings

FOR one hundred years the name of Mercersburg has suggested education. The particular phases of that education over the period of a century have been different, the institutions have constantly changed, but at no time was the idea of education lost to the name of Mercersburg. Today the name suggests the Mercersburg Academy, which is the fruitful heir of high ideals and heroic efforts in the training of boys for useful citizenship and worthy service to humanity.

The idea that one cannot know what an institution is until he knows how it came to be has not been displaced in an age of flash and television. Growth is still an essential factor in life, and a knowledge of the growth of the outer and inner life of any institution is indispensable to an adequate understanding and appreciation of its value. This is especially true of old established schools like Mercersburg Academy, to which hundreds of boys come year after year from the ends of the earth.

This story is written in order that these boys may carry with them through the years a finer sense of the historic heritage into which they enter at Mercersburg Academy, and a keener and more intelligent appreciation of the meaning and value of the surroundings of the Mercersburg campus; and that they may be inspired by the experiences and struggles of the men and boys of other days who made the continuity of this school possible throughout a golden century of education and life.

This story is written also because the earlier history of education at Mercersburg marks a very definite milestone in the progress of American education. In colonial America, ministers were imported from the Old World. But later, especially in the period immediately following the Revolution, the policy prevailed of importing the finest-trained young university teachers from Europe into the newly established schools of higher education in America. The institution at Mercersburg helped to inaugurate and foster this far-reaching policy. Thus both the church and the college acquired an increasingly American quality, though still based upon the best European thought and traditions.

The beginnings of the educational movement which later resulted in the establishment of the Mercersburg Academy are found in the "Era of Good Will" which lay between the signing of the Treaty of Ghent and the advent of Andrew Jackson. A new spirit of self-confidence came to the American nation after the Second War with Britain. A new pioneering chapter in our national life had begun. The popular imagination was stirred with a spirit of adventure which expressed itself in an eagerness for the occupation of our own territory, in a desire to extend our boundary, in endless internal improvements, and in an advancing wave of population moving, as in a vast exodus, toward the west.

With this new impulse to the idea of nationality there came an awakening of the religious and educational life of America. The churches on the eastern border of the United States, impelled by the new spirit of adventure and expansion, began to send missionaries to foreign lands in increasing numbers and planned to provide circuit-riders and pastors for the scattered and shifting population on the western plains. The preparation of young men for the work of the Christian ministry in western America and in foreign lands became a vital question in the era of expanding nationality.

Among the religious denominations in early colonial America was the Reformed Church, established by pioneers who, in the eighteenth century, came from the Palatinate and from Switzerland, from Holland and from France. Like the Pilgrims of New England they came, bringing with them their religious convictions, which were soon planted in the new soil. These Palatines and Huguenots, who came into Penn's province with its wide-open doors, resolved on freedom to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience, became builders of Commonwealths in the new land of their adoption. Their motives are expressed in an address delivered by one of their number in later years, in a style befitting the Pilgrim Fathers landing at Plymouth in 1620:

"Brethren, remember, the object of our coming here is not for money, nor fertile lands, nor even for bread. We have left our loved homes for the bread of life. We come here for the rights of conscience. We indeed see before us suffering and hardship, but we have suffered infinitely more grievous evils in our own land. There we were oppressed and forbidden to instruct our children in the truths of our holy religion. But in this free air we will breathe out our prayers to God unmolested. We will impart to our children a knowledge of the living principles of the Gospel faith. Let us not, then, repine at our lot. Let us here lay broad and deep for ourselves, our children, and our children's children, the strong foundations of a pure and simple worship. We will not live for ourselves. We will lay ourselves upon the altar of the Lord, to work for Him among our scattered countrymen around us. Let us then pray God, that in the midst of our trials and hardships, we may become a leaven among our people, a light to all around us."[1]

They brought with them their schoolmasters and their ministers, many of them trained and educated in the leading universities of the continent of Europe; men like John Philip Boehm, the founder of the Reformed Church in Pennsylvania; George Michael Weiss, educated at Heidelberg University; Michael Schlatter, a matriculate of the University of Leyden, who was sent to the New World by the Synod of Holland in 1746, and John J. Zubly, who was given an honorary degree by Princeton in 1770 and later represented the state of Georgia in the Continental Congress. As early as 1752 six young graduates from the University of Marburg and Herborn came to America in a spirit of high adventure to serve the church of their fathers.

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[1] Quoted from the *American Messenger* by the *Reformed Church Messenger,* August 11, 1847.

Meanwhile the scattered followers of Zwingli and Calvin were gathered into congregations and an organization was effected by the formation of a synod and classes, but the church still lacked the institutions that would perpetuate its existence in this country, and enable it to do its proper work in literary and theological culture.

After the American Revolution, the need of a college and a theological seminary every day became more apparent to the most farseeing men of the Reformed Church. It was not until after the War of 1812, however, that actual plans began to be laid for the founding of a theological seminary in which young men could be prepared for the work of the Christian ministry.

At a meeting of the church synod, held at Hagerstown, Maryland, during September, 1820, at which thirteen ministers and eleven elders were present, a committee offered a plan for a theological seminary. In their enthusiasm these twenty-four delegates elected the Reverend Dr. Philip Milledoler, pastor of a Dutch Reformed congregation in New York City, as theological professor, and fixed his salary at two thousand dollars. The tacit understanding was that the new school of the prophets was to be located in Frederick, Maryland, where Judge Abraham Shriver and other liberal men of the church were deeply interested in the new project. The plan, however, was premature.

Dr. Milledoler was a brilliant preacher but he was not a man of enterprise. He accepted the professorship, but when difference of opinion arose in the synod he reconsidered his decision and ended by declining the offer. The church was disheartened for a time but Dr. Lewis Mayer, pastor of the Reformed Church at York, Pennsylvania, insisted that the Seminary must be established. At Harrisburg, in the following year, the delegates decided to continue the seminary plan on a more economical scale, and were inclined to locate the new school in that city. In 1823 a group of men from Maryland, meeting with the synod at Baltimore, decided " to form a voluntary association for the purpose of establishing an institution for the education of young men for the ministry,"[2] and urged the church to elect a professor at five hundred dollars a year. The choice fell upon the Reverend Samuel Helfenstein, pastor of the Reformed Church in Philadelphia, who later declined the call.

It was at Bedford, Pennsylvania, in 1824, at a general convention of the ministers and elders of the whole denomination, that positive and final action was taken. It appears that the pastor of the Reformed Church at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the Reverend John S. Ebaugh, conceived the idea of linking the new seminary with Dickinson College. He came to the convention with a definite proposal from the Board of Trustees of the College, promising the seminary the use of a lecture room, the rent of a house for a professor, a lot of ground for the erection of suitable buildings, and free access to the library and the lectures of the college professors for theological students. The theological professor was in turn to serve as professor of history and German literature in Dickinson College. This proposition was put to a vote of the convention and the result was a tie. A tradition informs us that "there was a profound sensation in the synod and all eyes were turned to the president, the Rev. William Hendel, of Womelsdorf, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Solemnly rising in his chair under a deep sense of his responsibility, amidst profound silence, he cast his vote in emphatic German for the seminary, and from that time onward settled a question that seemed too difficult to settle."[3]

The seminary was opened at Carlisle on March 11, 1825, with five students. Dr. Lewis Mayer had been chosen by the synod of Bedford as the first professor, and through the persuasion of leading ministers had been induced to accept the call. In one of his numerous letters to a former parishioner, B. C. Wolff, Esq., of Virginia, Dr. Mayer wrote shortly after his election:

"I have this day accepted the call of Synod to the professorship in the Seminary about to be established in connection with Dickinson College at Carlisle. This acceptance will bring me in contact with the faculty and students of the College in the capacity of Professor of History and German Literature. In this capacity but little will be required of me, while much will be gained to the Seminary. The Faculty and Trustees of the College have shown every disposition to favor the Seminary, and I am persuaded they will furnish every facility which may not interfere with their own duties. My labors in this institution will not be many, and my support small. The Trustees of the College furnish a house, and the Synod gives a salary of seven hundred dollars, which, however, is not entirely certain. I see much to discourage me; but if ever we establish a Seminary, it must be done by disinterested and bold effort. If no one accepts the professorship until it is a safe and profitable office, the Seminary can never get into operation; and the principle on which this plan of rejection is founded, if it were correct, would have justified the Reformers, the Apostles, and Jesus Himself in shrinking from the destination to which they were appointed." [4]

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[2] From the German of the Proceedings of Synod, Baltimore, 1823.

[3] Appel, Theodore: *The Beginnings of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States.* Philadelphia, 1886, p. 45.

Six months after the school had opened, a committee of the synod meeting at Philadelphia reported: "With the greatest pleasure we the members of the Examining Committee of the students of our Theological Institute, inform the Reverend Synod that we are perfectly satisfied. Our professor, the Rev. Lewis Mayer, has in the short time of instruction not only done much for the young students but the students on their part, have likewise used every diligence to exhibit themselves studious in the various branches of instruction. It is our wish therefore that the Reverend Synod may see to it, that this Institution may not only be supported, but that it may arrive at a constantly flourishing condition. And that this wish may be realized we are of opinion that the Reverend Synod should appoint agents to collect funds in these free states, in which they think we may receive support." [5]

The examining committee may have been "perfectly satisfied" with the students, but Prof. Mayer was not. In his report at the same meeting, he said very frankly, "Had these young gentlemen been prepared by a preliminary scientific education for theological studies, more would have been effected in less time and with less trouble."[6] The logic of that statement was inescapable. It led straight into the formation of a school that could furnish collegiate preparation.

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[4] *Ibid.*, p. 50.

[5] From the German of the Proceedings of Synod, Philadelphia, September 25-30, 1825.

In the autumn of 1826, when the synod met in Frederick, Maryland, several interesting facts were reported. The number of students in the Seminary had doubled, but Dr. Mayer was compelled to teach them in his private home because the lecture room for their accommodation was not satisfactory. Besides, not many college students at Dickinson at that time wished to be taught in German literature. Many subscriptions to the new school had been received; the names of Rockefeller and Livingstone of New York were on the list of contributors. A large number of books had been gathered for the library. The synod seemed well satisfied, but Dr. Mayer again spoke of the lack of preparation of the students and of their great need of Greek and Latin.

Meanwhile James R. Reily, the synod's representative, had gone to Europe to make a plea in Holland, Switzerland, and Germany for the support of the seminary. He was received with the greatest kindness and returned with a large number of books for the library, a goodly sum of money, and many gifts for the new institution from friends across the sea. From the women of Switzerland there were gifts of embroidery, watches, earrings set with pearls, a locket with corals, a gold finger-ring—gifts of devotion to the new adventure of building a new school for young men in the new world.

"Mr. Reily arrived in Philadelphia, November 16th, 1826, having been absent about one year and a half. From the itemized account of money and books received, published in the Minutes of 1827, it is evident that he was both diligent and successful. The contributions in money which he received in Holland, Rhine Prussia, Würtemberg, Switzerland, Heidelberg, and Frankfort, amounted to 15,196 florins, and 26 kreutzers—equal to $6078.60. In Leipsic, Berlin, and Bremen, he received 826 rix-dollars and 31 groschen—equal to $620.95—in all, $6699.55. Besides this, he collected several thousand volumes of books, which he received as gifts. With a part of the money collected, he purchased other books, which, together with freight, in gathering and shipping them, amounted to $1653.51—leaving still $5046.04, in money, for the Seminary. Thus the infant institution, and especially its library, received very important help by means of his successful mission."[7]

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[6] *Ibid.*

Despite the encouragement from abroad, the Seminary at Carlisle languished. Lewis Mayer in 1827 wrote to B. C. Wolff:

"I labor here with a slow painful progress. The number of our students is only eight, and none of them is distinguished for talents or acquirements. The seminary is neglected by its professed friends. The situation resembles that of a little barque on a rough sea, with a pilot, indeed, and a compass on board, but without sails or seamen to manage them, tossed by the wind and waves, in constant danger of being dashed upon quicksands or rocks, ever and anon addressed by a passing vessel under easy sail, that hails her, asks her how she does, wishes her a pleasant voyage and bears away. I shall not abandon this suffering ship until I discover that she is sinking, which I hope and pray may not be."[8]

In 1829, at the Synod in Lebanon, Dr. Mayer reported only four students in the school, with the prospect of four new ones coming during the summer. Two of the students for the ministry had no preparation except that they could read and write. Then Dr. Mayer made a final plea in which we find the germ of the new college. He asked for the privilege of connecting with the Seminary a literary and scientific institution in which Latin, Greek, Hebrew, natural sciences, mathematics, logic, geography, history, and composition should be taught. "The time is not far distant," he said, "in which the Synod of the Church will establish a scientific and literary institution which will meet our needs."[9] He asked for the removal of the institution from Carlisle and suggested linking it with Franklin College at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

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[7] Harbaugh, H.: *The Fathers of the German Reformed Church in Europe and America;* ed. by Rev. D. Y. Heisler. Lancaster, 1872, vol. III, p. 254.

[8] Appel, *op. cit.*, p. 73.

The outcome was that the Seminary was taken to York, and that the synod established there, in addition to the Seminary, a new type of school. The decisive action was taken when at the Synod of Lebanon on September 27, 1829, the following resolution was adopted: "Since Dr. Mayer recommends the addition of a classical institute to the Seminary, be it resolved that a competent instructor be called, who shall teach the youth all the necessary arts and sciences."[10] The Rev. Daniel Young, a graduate of Union College, New York, and of Princeton Theological Seminary, was chosen as assistant to Dr. Mayer at two hundred dollars a year. He entered upon his work with great earnestness and zeal. He accepted the editorship of the *Magazine of the Reformed Church* at the close of the first volume in 1827. He was a man of great attainments in Biblical learning.

It was a day of small beginnings, of confused plans, of loose organization. The only fact clearly in the mind of the Church was that someone ought to be made officially responsible for the training of young men for the Christian ministry. Out of this earnest desire and conviction came the impulse to elect a professor to whom this work was to be assigned. If, as Emerson tells us, an institution is but the lengthening shadow of a man, the Theological Seminary grew naturally out of the personal effort of its founder and first professor, Dr. Lewis Mayer.

[9] From the German of the Proceedings of Synod, Lebanon, Pa., September 27, 1829.

[10] *Ibid.*

Chapter II

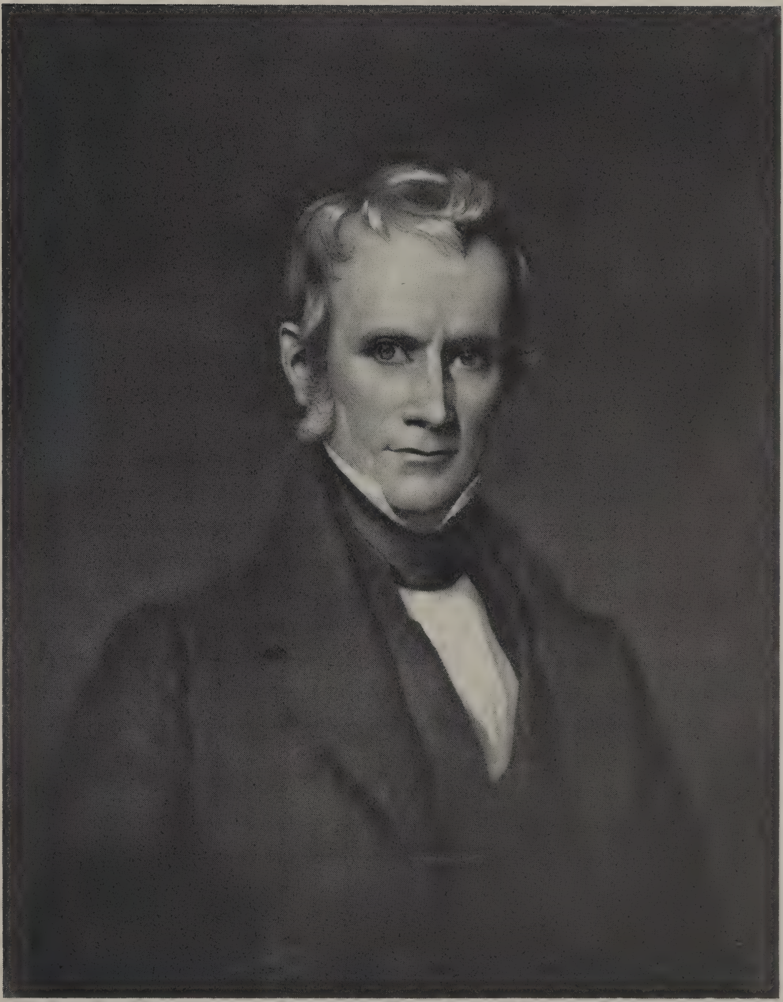
The Classical Institution

AFTER four years in Carlisle, the Theological Seminary was moved to York, Pennsylvania, in 1829. The transfer was accomplished speedily and without difficulty. The library was loaded on a long line of farmers' teams. The president, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Mayer, who was formerly a pastor in York, had purchased, on his own responsibility, a property for the Seminary at the northwest corner of Market and Penn Streets, which the synod later accepted. The title was vested in the treasurer of the Board of Trustees. The building was an old-time schoolhouse, about fifty feet in length.

In a short time the institution was in a promising condition. The Rev. Daniel Young assisted the President of the Seminary in the teaching of elementary branches as well as theology until the spring of 1831, when he was forced to go to Augusta, Georgia, for the restoration of his health.

An act of incorporation for the Seminary had been obtained. Within a year, twenty-three students for the ministry were on the roll. The *Magazine of the Reformed Church* for December, 1831, gives the names of the students of the Seminary at that date. It will be noted that they came from five different states. The list follows:

Daniel Ziegler, New Berlin, Penn.
George Leopold, Lincolnton, N. C.
George Glessner, York, Penn.
Hamilton Van Dyck, Schoharie, N. Y.
J. William Hoffmeier, Lancaster, Penn.
John Cares, Milton, Penn.
Daniel Riegle, Jefferson, York county, Penn.



Engraved by John Sartain. The original by Jacob Eichholtz.

REV. LEWIS MAYER, D.D.

The First Professor in the Seminary

Daniel Bragonier, Hagerstown, Md.
Wm. A. Good, Reading, Penn.
Jeremiah Heller, Hanover, Penn.
Elias Heiner, Taney-town, Md.
Abraham Keller, Petersburg, Penn.
Henry Winroth, Do. Do.
William Bennet, Long Island, N. Y.
B. C. Wolff, Martinsburg, Va.
Samuel Winroth, Petersburg, Penn.
George L. Brown, Frederick-Town, Md.
Robert Douglas, Baltimore, Md.
Joseph Lingel, Salisbury, N. C.
John G. Wolf, Martinsburg, Va.
Wm. F. Colliflower, Washington Co. Md.
Samuel B. Leiter, do do
Ephraim Kiefer, Chambersburg, Penn.

Concerning their mode of life, the *Magazine* says: "It is in contemplation to introduce the manual labour system, and for this purpose the greater number of the students have united in renting a comfortable house, not far from the Seminary, with a lot of ground, which they cultivate with their own hands; and part of the day is to be spent in mechanical labour, by which the expense of boarding is considerably reduced. They have their cooking, washing &c. done by an elderly lady whom they hired by the month. It is believed that by this plan much expense will be saved, and the boarding considerably reduced. We have every reason to believe that this plan will be conductive to the health of the students."[1]

Gifts from many sources continued to come to the Seminary. Dr. Mayer reported: "From Gottenberg in Sweden a copy of an edition of sermons in the Swedish language has been sent to us, together with a letter from the author, the Rev. D. W. Dunkel, court chaplain of the King of Sweden, Provost and Pastor of the Germans in Gottenberg, informing that this edition has been published for the benefit of the Seminary."

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[1] *Magazine of the Reformed Church,* June, 1831.

The Trustees, in their report to the Synod at Harrisburg, September, 1831, issued a note of warning on the importance of exercising greater care in the admission of students: "Without scrupulous attention to this point, the liberalities of those whose contributions founded and support the institution, and the talents and diligence of those whose office it is to impart instruction will to a great extent be exerted in vain."[2]

Dr. Mayer constantly insisted on the need of better preparation for the students. An article signed "Adelphos" urged the absolute necessity of a classical school: "The necessity of a classical school has been long and deeply felt. It is impossible that a professor, who is burthened with the care of every branch of theological study, should, at the same time, perform the duties of elementary teaching; or that young men whose minds are untutored and unfurnished, should make any considerable progress in the more difficult studies of a theological school. These studies require considerable stores of knowledge previously gathered, and habits of attention, discrimination and reasoning previously formed. . . .

"An Academy connected with our Theological School must be so organized, that young men may be fully prepared in it to commence the study of Theology; and while it is especially designed for those who have the ministry of the gospel in view, it must be general in its plan, and adapt itself also to the exigency of students whose destination is otherwise."[3]

The establishment of a classical institution was doubtless contemplated in the project of the charter for the Theological Seminary adopted by the synod in 1829. The sixth article of that instrument provided "that the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States shall, from time to time establish such professorships and tutorships, in literature, science and theology in the said Seminary as they shall judge expedient, and shall elect the professors and tutors thereof, appoint their salaries, prescribe their duties, and remove them from their offices, when in their judgment the interest of the said Seminary shall require."

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[2] Synodical Reports of the Harrisburg Synod, September, 1831.

[3] *Magazine of the German Reformed Church*, June, 1829.

The classical school attached to the Theological Seminary was opened in the summer of 1832. In April of that year the loosely organized, unsystematic efforts at classical preparation of students were definitely crystallized into institutional form. An announcement stated that "the Classical School will certainly be opened at the commencement of the Summer Session. The school must be sustained chiefly by tuition fees. The charges will be as moderate as in any similar institution in the United States. The price of tuition is for the lower branches $7 and for the upper branches $10 per session. There will be two sessions and two vacations. The students will have access to the library of the Theological Seminary. They will be united with the theological students and subject to the same government."[4]

The classical school in York was conducted in a building on South George Street, adjoining the site of the present Saint Mary's Catholic Church. Many students came to the newly opened school. Strange to say, most of them came from a distance. There was an incorporated academy in York to which the boys of families residing in the town were accustomed to go, so that the number of boys from York who were connected with the Classical School was less than might otherwise have been expected.

The list of students in this early period is really surprising when one considers the difficulties of travel, the youth of preparatory students and the newness of the school. From the early records of the school we reprint the following lists of students. These lists are important, for in them are included the names of a number of men who, as ministers, college Presidents and professors in the educational institutions of the Church, were of great influence. Their descendants are to be found today in every State of the Union.

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[4] *Ibid.*, April, 1832.

(1)

CLASSICAL INSTITUTION
of the
GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH

We, the undersigned, have read and understood the "laws of this Institution and solemnly promise to obey them.

J. H. A. Bomberger, Lancaster, Pa.
Jno. D. Cox, Harrisburg.
Michael Eyster, York.
Jacob B. Ayres, Harrisburg.
E. V. Gerhart, Millersburg, Pa.
Charles A. Hay, York.
Isaac E. Houser, Bakersville, Md.
Daniel G. Henkle, Virginia.
Daniel Kroh, York.
Amos H. Kremer, York County.
Moses Kieffer, Chambersburg.
John Kooken, Pine Grove Mills.
Daniel Miller, Berkley Co. Va.
G. H. Martin, Frederick Co. Md.
I. H. McCauley, Maryland.
C. F. McCauley, Do.
Decatur Rice, Milton.
James vh. Nussear, Baltimore.
Jesse Steiner, Frederick.
Henry Williard, Burkittsville, Md.
George W. Williard, Burkittsville, Md.
A. S. Young, Quakertown.
Jacob Ziegler, York.
Emanuel Hoffheins, Dover Township, York Co., Pa.
Benjamin H. Linebach, Milton.
William A. Bruner, Lancaster, Pa.
Thomas Elder, Harrisburg.
William G. Vogelsong, York.

Edwin Wirt, Hanover.
Chas. I. Barnitz, York, Pa.
Mr. John J. Myer, Baltimore, Md.
George B. Schmidt, York, Penn.
James A. Myer, Baltimore, Md.
Luther Wolf, Harrisburg, Pa.
Frederick A. Barnitz, Harrisburg, Pa.
E. A. Barnitz, Harrisburg, Pa.
John F. Schmidt, York, Penn.
Samuel Weaver, York.
Henry Baumgardner, York, Pa.
Henry Wangle, Harrisburg, Pa.
Dewitt C. Brooks, Harrisburg,
  Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.
Jacob Heyser, Chambersburg,
  Franklin County, Penna.
Peter Stout, Lancaster, Pa.
Jacob Gopler, Columbia, Pa.
Jacob King, York, York County, Penna.
Charles H. Budd, Bur: co: N. Jersey.[5]

(2)

List of Students in the Classical Institution of the German Reformed Church, York, Pa., during the Winter Session of 1833–4.

T. W. Bibighaus, Philadelphia, Pa.
William Bantz, Frederick, Md.
Theodore Bantz, Ditto.
Jonas Bachman, Lancaster, Pa.
J. Brooks, Harrisburg, Pa.
Jacob Buckey, Frederick, Md.
John H. A. Bomberger, Lancaster, Pa.
Henry Baumgardner, York, Pa.
Charles Barnitz, Do.

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[5] Faculty Minute Book of the Classical Institution, later of Marshall College. In Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

Alex. M. Barnitz, York, Pa.
William Conrad, Berlin, Somerset co. Pa.
William Colliflower, Washington co. Md.
Daniel Decker, York, Pa.
Thomas Elder, Harrisburg, Pa.
John Elder, Harrisburg, Pa.
John Foster, Cavetown, Md.
Daniel Feete, Middletown, Md.
Andrew B. Freese, Cairo, Green co. N. Y.
C. W. Flanders, Harrisburg, Pa.
Daniel Gring, Berks co. Pa.
John K. Gerhard, Berks co. Pa.
Wm. T. Gerhard, Berks co. Pa.
Emanuel Gerhart, Millersburg, Pa.
Daniel M. Good, Franklin co. Pa.
Henry E. Hartman, York, Pa.
Granville Hartman, York, Pa.
Manlove Hays, Dover, Delaware.
Charles A. Hay, York, Pa.
George Heckert, York, Pa.
Jacob Heyser, Chambersburg, Pa.
Wm. J. Huyett, Washington co. Md.
Samuel C. Huyett, Washington co. Md.
John Hensell, Shepherdstown, Va.
Theo. W. Hoffeditz, Northampton co. Pa.
David Jones, York, Pa.
Ephraim Kieffer, Chambersburg, Pa.
Moses Kieffer, Chambersburg, Pa.
William Kunkle, Frederick, Md.
J. H. Lightner, Williamston, Lan. co. Pa.
Samuel B. Leiter, Leitersburg, Md.
C. H. Lefevre, Lancaster co. Pa.
Henry D. Michael, Lancaster, Pa.
Chas. F. McCauley, Bakersville, Md.
David Martin, Washington co. Md.
James Nussear, Baltimore, Md.
Thomas Pomp, Easton, Pa.
Charles Poor, York, Pa.

Charles Ruthrauff, York, Pa.
Amos E. Reigart, Lancaster, Pa.
Henry Reigart, Lancaster, Pa.
Alexander Spangler, York, Pa.
John Stehley, Harrisburg, Pa.
Stephen Snyder, Easton, Pa.
Jesse Steiner, Frederick, Md.
Peter Stout, Lancaster, Pa.
George Stein, York, Pa.
Jacob Sechler, Northumberland co. Pa.
George Small, York, Pa.
Washington van Bibber, Frederick co. Md.
Abraham van Bibber, Frederick co. Md.
Wm. Voglesong, York, Pa.
D. S. Wagner, York, Pa.
Edward Wolf, Harrisburg, Pa.
Henry Williard, Burkettsville, Md.
W. E. Wirt, Hanover, Pa.
John G. Wolff, Martinsburg, Va.
J. George Wolff, Chambersburg, Pa.
Andrew S. Young, Quakertown, Pa.
Jacob Zeigler, Philadelphia, Pa.[6]

In the autumn of 1831, the Board of Visitors of the Seminary appointed the Rev. S. Boyer of the Presbyterian Church, who was in charge of the academy at York, to become classical teacher in the Theological Seminary. There is a record showing that he examined his classes in geography, Jacob's Reader, Virgil, Cicero, and the New Testament in Greek. In the summer session his place was taken by the Rev. William A. Good, a student of theology. The Rev. Charles Dober, of the Moravian Church of York, was also engaged as assistant. Meanwhile Dr. Mayer taught theology, German, and other branches.

The method of teaching is seen in the following description of a geography lesson taught in the class of the Rev. Mr. Dober: "With the map before them, the teacher points their attention to the characteristic features of the country, which is the subject of study, in brief lectures, that are succeeded by recitations from memory on the same subject by the pupils. In the lectures the main points on which the character of a country depends are made conspicuous; unity of design is preserved, the method is made clear and attractive; and the whole exercise being made pleasant, the attention of the class is well sustained. We are persuaded that, if those who are taught in this institution do not acquire a good knowledge of geography, they are not likely to learn much of it in another."[7]

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[6] *Reformed Church Messenger,* January, 1832.

The situation in York and the relation between the Seminary and the Classical School is considerably clarified by the following letter written by Dr. Lewis Mayer to the Rev. James R. Reily on July 6, 1832. Mr. Reily had taken a deep interest in the work of the Seminary and had made its establishment possible, as we have seen, by securing funds in this country and in Europe.

York, July 6, 1832

Dear Brother,

I wish the congregation at Easton could be gratified in the way you suggested, but neither of the young men whom you mentioned will be prepared to leave the Seminary in less than two years, or, at least eighteen months. Both will become popular speakers and highly respectable in their profession. Mr. Wolffe will leave the Seminary at farthest next spring. He will be an excellent pastor and a respectable preacher, and would be a most useful man in that section of the church. His address in the pulpit is less popular, but his discourses will be much superior to such as any other student of the Seminary will be able, at that time, to preach. As he cannot preach in German, though he understands the language well enough, a situation like the one at Easton would suit him best, provided support for his family could be obtained. Mr. Hoffmeyer, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Leopold, and Mr. Van Dycke quit the Seminary between this time and next spring. Mr. Van Dycke will probably go to Chambersburgh. We have applications at present from Tiffin, Ohio, Sheperdstown, Va., Taneytown and Hagerstown, Md.; and from Chambersburgh and Mercersburgh, Pa. The number of our students must be considerably increased before the Seminary can supply the growing demand. Mr. Wolffe is a very devoted man and will not ask for a large salary. He will maintain a very respectable standing wherever he may be located, and will certainly be very useful.

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[7] *Ibid.*, January, 1834.

I have conversed with Mr. Danner. He is much pleased to hear of your encouraging prospects. It is however his opinion, and mine also, that subscriptions payable in annual instalments are very uncertain. The difficulty and expense of collecting them from year to year are such that the money will never be collected. Some of the subscribers, moreover, may die, others remove, and others change their minds before the time expires. Of the subscription obtained in this county 3 years ago very little has yet been paid. It is thought better that you should take in cash what you can get, and to accept subscriptions payable at a future time from such as cannot pay immediately. The scheme of Dr. Cathcart is to pay 50 dollars as soon as fifty subscriptions are obtained, provided the number be procured at or before the next meeting of Synod. As this itself will be a considerable amount it is of great importance that the scheme be carried into effect. It is therefore desired that you should direct your principal efforts to this object, but at the same time it is expected that you will take any sum you can get from such as will not give $50. If one person will give $100, it will be counted two subscriptions; and so of higher sums. There is wealth enough in our church, and enough in the eastern section of it, to complete more than one such scheme; and a vigorous effort ought now to be made to secure at least this one. If you should succeed well, it would silence the murmurs of many who can see all our faults without an attempt to mend them, and without giving us credit for any past services. There is no better way to silence complaints than to let the complainers see that one can succeed without them. They will then fall in with others for a portion of the merit of being pleased with a good object and of doing something for it. Your success will enable us to collect the sums due on other subscriptions and to effect something in York. It is expected that Mr. Wolffe will take an agency in Philadelphia next fall. It will give great weight to his solicitations if we can show that we have done something worth speaking of ourselves.

In relation to the building Mr. Danner thinks that materials cannot be purchased before next spring. The price of lumber is extravagantly high, and that of other materials, particularly of bricks, is also high. He thinks it best to procure the funds now and purchase the materials and make cash contracts with workmen in the spring. In this way a large part of the expense can be saved, and economy ought to be our chief care.

In reference to Mr. Rauch I gave my opinion briefly in the last. His services would be of great value to our church; and his being a good German scholar and a minister in our own church entitles him to a decided preference. I think however that Mr. Good ought to be retained in a subordinate capacity. He will unquestionably become a valuable officer in the institution. Mr. Rauch might take charge of some of the studies in sacred literature, or have that whole department and unite with it the higher classes in Latin and Greek. But this subject is for the Synod only to determine, and to their decision I refer it. The plan to which I alluded in my last was, to appoint Mr. Boyer principal of the classical school, provided that he becomes a member of our church and the Trustees of the Academy [of York County] permit our school to occupy rooms in their building and to take in the scholars who would otherwise go to the Academy, the school to be exclusively under our Board of Visitors. On this subject I had some conversation with Mr. Boyer, apprising him that the plan was wholly my own and unauthorized. He thought it practicable and was pleased with it; and my intention was if the Trustees of the Academy were favourably disposed, to propose it to the Board of Visitors and the Synod. All that was said was in confidence; and in confidence I now mention it to you. Very few know any thing of it. If another plan be adopted this one must be kept secret. Mr. Boyer would in my opinion be a valuable acquisition, and the contemplated plan would prevent collision and jealousy between us and the friends of the Academy. I doubt whether the Trustees would accede to it. I learn that some of them entertain doubts whether they have the power to agree to such an arrangement. Be all this as it may, the Synod alone have the right to determine any thing, so far as we are concerned. Present my affectionate remembrance to our brother Pomp. Yours

L. MAYER[8]

At the Synod meeting in Frederick, Maryland, in September, 1832, the Committee of Correspondence presented a letter from Pastor Hoffeditz recommending Dr. Frederick Augustus Rauch as a second professor in the seminary to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Rev. Daniel Young in the south. This letter was supplemented by another from Pastor Isaac Gerhard, with a similar recommendation. A third letter from Dr. Thomas Pomp, Reformed Pastor at Easton, Pa., included the following credentials for Dr. Rauch:

1. Certificate of his examination in Ancient Languages and Science before the Faculty of the University of Giessen.
2. A matriculation card.
3. Certificate of good moral character from the Rector of the University of Giessen.
4. Testimony of the Council of Instruction from the Duke of Nassau to the effect that he had taught Latin and Greek, history, geography, natural science in the Institute of Frankfurt.
5. A diploma from the University of Marburg.
6. A certificate of examination by the faculty of Giessen which gave him the right to the highest position in the University.
7. A call to a professorship in Giessen.
8. A certificate that he was recognized as a preacher of God's Word.

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[8] Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

The committee also stated that he was the author of the following works in Latin and German:

1. A Latin treatise on Sophocles' "Electra."
2. A Latin essay on the Resurrection of the Dead—"de Resurrectione Mortuorum."
3. On the identity of Hindu, Persian, German, and Slav from the standpoint of Language, Religion, and Customs.
4. An interpretation of Goethe's "Faust."
5. A comparison of the Catholic doctrine of auricular confession and the Lutheran repentance.
6. A treatise on the will of God as the highest principle of Morality, or on the pre-determined life.
7. A book on the Literature of Hindus and Persians.
8. Short addresses and sermons.

On the strength of these recommendations, the Synod decided to elect Dr. Rauch and give him exclusive control of the newly-planned classical school.

When, at the meeting of the Synod of Frederick, Maryland, this twenty-six-year-old professor appeared, he was directed to become the Principal of the Classical Department of the Seminary and at the same time serve as Professor of Biblical Literature in the Theological School. For this service he was to receive $600 a year. It is said that he declined a larger salary because he had not yet proved his fitness. He was graciously and enthusiastically received by the Synod, being escorted to the chancel by a special committee appointed by the President.

One sentence in his speech of acceptance is characteristic of the modesty and earnestness of this brilliant young head-master and teacher. "I want the Church to understand," he said, "that they are not to consider themselves bound for the future by their action of the present, for I wish to stand or fall absolutely on my own merits as a teacher, and I cherish the hope that the Church may be freed from worries so far as obligations to me may be concerned."[9] In Dr. Rauch's inaugural address, as he assumed his duties as principal of the Classical Institution and Professor of Biblical Literature in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in York, Pennsylvania, October 18, 1832, he said: "As I have come here in obedience to the call with which a Reverend Synod has honored me, I am led to reflect whether my desire and eagerness to attempt something noble be not greater than my abilities to accomplish it;—so great and so difficult to fulfill are the obligations which I have today assumed, so great the vow which I have made, so important the reckoning which I must henceforth render to the whole church, and above all to my God. God has imposed these new duties upon me. With this conviction will I enter upon my office, with this will I exercise it, and with this will I hereafter leave it, full of reliance on Him who gives success to every pious effort."[10]

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[9] Proceedings of Synod, Frederick, Maryland, September, 1832.

The York Classical Institute flourished under the guidance of Dr. Rauch. Up to the time of his coming the school had been but partially and imperfectly organized. Shortly after Dr. Rauch's arrival the trustees sent a circular to all the pastors and congregations urging a generous interest in the work of the new school. "We have now established in connection with the Seminary, a Classical School in which young men may be suitably prepared for admission into the Seminary, where they may obtain that preliminary instruction without which all their subsequent studies must ever be prosecuted under burdensome disadvantages and with irksome toil. We have a Classical School where the children of our lay brethren will be enabled to obtain such an education as will qualify them to pursue creditably the various callings of private and public life, or to engage in literary and scientific avocations, with all the advantages which minds early disciplined and well stored with fundamental truths must ever possess. This school is now under the care and direction of a gentleman soundly learned, and thoroughly versed in the best modern systems of mental culture, able to impart, with facility to his pupils, instructions from his own great stores, delighting in the employment, and solicitous mainly to demonstrate

[10] *Reformed Church Messenger*, January, 1833.

his own competency and skill by the proficiency and progress of those committed to his charge. The rapid growth of the school, under his auspices, and its steady increase are the best evidences we could desire that his abilities and devotedness are properly appreciated and will be abundantly rewarded by the patronage of the public. Times have greatly changed within the last quarter of a century. That which was once thought good enough will scarcely pass now. An educated society will not listen with patience to any illiterate preacher. For this purpose the Classical School is vitally essential to the church, alike for the education of young men intended for the ministry and for that of such as incline to other pursuits."[11]

In the Synod meeting at Easton, during September, 1833, the Classis of Maryland expressed the high estimation in which it held Dr. Rauch's professional services. Dr. Rauch laid before the board his plan of instruction in the Classical School, eight hundred copies of which were published. The Rev. John H. Agnew, formerly Professor of Languages at Washington College, Pennsylvania, was appointed assistant at a salary of $150 for the winter, and upon his resignation in September 1833 the Board of Visitors elected the Rev. Henry Miller as his successor. At the end of the first session under Dr. Rauch the examination of the students was conducted by the professors in the presence of the board. The examinations having terminated, the board attended in the evening "with much pleasure an exhibition by the students in the German Reformed Church of York." The whole number of students at the end of the winter session was thirty-two. The summer session was open to forty-seven students.

By the spring of 1834, the Rev. Mr. Miller had been replaced by Mr. Samuel W. Budd, a graduate of Princeton. According to Glossbrenner's *History of York County*, published in 1834, "The teachers at present employed in the Classical School are Rev. F. A. Rauch, principal, Mr. Samuel W. Budd, and Rev. Charles Dober. The number of the students in the institution at present [July 1834] is about 80, who are generally from a distance."

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[11] *Ibid.*, Aug., 1833.

The Classical Institution was thoroughly organized by Dr. Rauch along European models. The outline of studies presented below is all the more surprising when one recalls the condition of American colleges at this period. In 1833 there were only sixty colleges in the United States and about 5,000 undergraduates. The interesting fact is that 3,475 of these students were academical, 663 theological, 88 legal, and 2,000 medical. Even Harvard University had hardly a dozen professors, and the number of students enrolled was less than 250.[12]

In the light of these facts, the prospectus of courses in the Classical School of York in 1833 holds great interest.

CLASSICAL SCHOOL

of the

GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH, YORK, PA.

REPORT of the progress of the Classes during the last session, and Arrangement for the Winter session.

LANGUAGES

I. *Latin Language.* During the last session there have been 23 recitations a week in the Latin language, viz.:

Horace—Twice a week, Read the Third Book of the Odes.

Cicero—Twice a week, Read a part of the Philippics, and the whole of "de Senectute." Of the latter, oral as well as written translations were made into the German language.

Caesar—Nine times. Nearly all the fifth and a part of the first book have been read. In reading Caesar, the principal object is to make the student thoroughly acquainted with the whole compass of Latin Syntax. There were two classes in Caesar.

Latin Reader—Three times. Finished the Fables and commenced the Roman History.

Latin Grammar—Three times, the first class has been taught the declensions and conjugations. These were first committed to memory and their formation was afterwards explained, so that the scholar was enabled to find for himself every form of substantive, adjective, or verb by given rules. To explain to him the application of these rules, easy exercises or translations from English into Latin, in which substantive and verb appeared in all their possible changes, were made during the recitation, and a few easy passages translated from Latin into English. Care has been constantly taken to exercise the understanding rather than the memory of the pupils.

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[12] *American Almanac for 1833.*

Virgil—Twice a week. Read the Bucolics. Instruction in Prosody.
Exercises in Latin Composition—Twice a week.

Arrangement for the Winter Session.

During the winter session there will be given 24 recitations a week in Latin, viz.:

Horace—Twice a week.
Virgil's Aeneid—Three times.
Livy—Three times.
Sallust—Three times.
Cornelius Nepos—Five times.
Latin Reader—Three times.
Latin Grammar—Three times.
Latin Exercises—Twice.

II. *Greek Language.* During the summer session there have been twelve recitations a week in the Greek.

Sophocles—Oedipus Rex. Twice a week.

Homer's Iliad—Twice. Finished the third and fourth books.

Jacob's Reader—Continued the translation. Verbs of all classes have been repeated and rules of Syntax given. The class is at present attending to mythological narrations. Grammar has always been attended to.

Grammar—The same plan has been adopted as in Latin, according to Butman and Thiersch. The changes of consonant and vowels and the rules of contraction in the conjugation of the verbs have been thoroughly explained. The verbs have been learned almost entirely by the rules of formation, and but little has been entrusted to the memory alone. The class has commenced translating Jacob's Greek Reader and advanced as far as examples of the verb.

Arrangement of the Winter Session.

There will be given, as during the summer session, twelve lessons a week in the Greek language.

Aeschylus, Seven before Thebes—Twice a week.
Plato's Crito—Three times.
Homer's Iliad—Three times.
Jacob's Greek Reader—in connection with the Grammar, as commenced last session. Four times.
Greek Grammar—There will be a class for beginners.

III. *German Language.* During the summer session, there have been twelve recitations a week in the German language.

1st Class—Three times a week. Declensions and verbs have been gone through. Wilmsen's Elementarbuch commenced to be translated. Easy compositions are written, and exercises are given in conversation and reading.

2d Class—Follen's Reader. Four times. Exercises in composition and conversation.

3d Class—Three times. Began with the Grammar, Declensions, Conjugations, Translated parts of Follen's Reader, Lessing's Fables, Thiek, Herder. Now translating the Abderitis of Wieland. Compositions have been written continually. Exercises in orthography and conversation.

4th Class—Lectures on Ethics in the German language.

Arrangement for the Winter Session.
Eleven Recitations, viz.:

Wilmsen's Reader—Three times. Exercises in writing and conversation.

Follen's Reader—Three times. Exercises in writing, composition, and conversation.

Schiller's William Tell—Three times. Composition weekly.

Review of the different principles of Ethics which have formerly been held. Twice a week in the German language.

IV. *French* will be taught if desired.

SCIENCES

Moral—During the summer session there have been lectures on:
Ethics—Twice a week.
For the Winter Session.
General part of Ethics in the German language, twice a week.
Biblical History according to Huebner, twice a week.
Psychology—Twice a week.
Logic—*Logic* has been finished during the summer session.

Rhetoric—Blair's. Two recitations a week as appointed for the summer session. *Lectures on Poetry* will be delivered twice a week, during the winter session.

Antiquities—Roman Antiquities have been finished during the summer session.

Grecian Antiquities—will be taken up during the winter.

History—Summer Session.

General History. Twice a week. A concise outline of Political History according to the different periods of Ancient, Middle Ages, Modern, and a brief statement of the most important events which signalized each century. Grecian History from the earliest times to the end of Grecian liberty. The whole in the form of narrations. Frequent repetitions have been made.

Biography, according to Plutarch. Three times a week.

Winter Session—History of the United States. Twice a week.

General History—Continued. Twice a week.

Biography—Continued. Twice a week.

Natural History. Summer Session—History of Fishes, Amphibious animals, and Insects. Twice a week.

For the Winter—History of quadrupeds, according to Blumenbach. Twice a week.

For a class of the older students. Lectures on Natural History according to Oken. Twice a week.

Mathematics—Arithmetic. The boys have been arranged as far as practicable into classes. These are numerous and in very different stages of advancement. Their progress has been very satisfactory. They recite daily. The first class will be prepared to commence Algebra (*Young's*) about the middle of the winter session.

Mensuration—The class reviewed decimal fractions and square root preparatory to commencing the problems in the mensuration of superficies. Recites three times a week; will be continued during the winter as during the summer session.

Algebra—Nearly finished. Will commence Geometry (most probably *Legendre's*) early in the winter session.

Geometry—Have gone over three books of Euclid; will finish it before the end of next session and take up Trigonometry (*Lacroix*).

Natural Philosophy—The class of boys who commenced *Comstock's* will finish it next session. A class of the students has read first volume of *Arnott's Elements of Physics.* The first part of the second Vol. will be taken up, and then either the second part of that volume or *Herschel's Astronomy* in place of it. A part at least of this subject will be reviewed hereafter, and the classes will apply what they shall have acquired of the higher branches of mathematics.

Astronomy—One familiar lesson a week has been given to the boys during the summer session accompanied with easy problems on the globes. The same will be continued during the winter.

Botany—One lecture a week; will be continued the same next session.

Geography—First class. Olney's. Introduction to the study—America. The United States, of which a very full account has been given.

2d class. Woodbridge's—The whole of America has been gone through, in a very full manner, and so as to enable the scholar to form a complete idea of every country in his own mind. The countries have always been taken up as they follow on the map, beginning at one extremity and ending at the other.

ENGLISH STUDIES

Daily exercises are required of the smaller boys in reading, writing, and orthography.

Composition—1st Class of students is divided into two parts, and each division reads composition every other week alternately. The same will be continued during the winter session. No student is excused from this exercise.

————————*2d Class* of the Boys, during the summer session all read compositions every week. For next session one half will be required to read compositions and the other to speak selected orations alternately every week. At the close of the winter session a part of them will be chosen to pronounce orations in public; and the being thus chosen will be considered a distinction and a reward of attention to the exercise.

English Grammar—1st Class. Has gone over and reviewed *Kirkham,* and is now parsing and transposing into prose *Cowper's Task.*

——— ————————*2d Class.* Has gone over the grammar and commenced parsing and correcting false syntax. Both classes will be continued next session. Recite every day excepting Saturday.

INSTRUCTORS

The instructors in the Institution are

REV. F. A. RAUCH, D.P., *Principal,*
MR. SAMUEL A. BUDD, A.M., and
REV. CHARLES DOBER, Pastor of the Moravian Church.

There are two sessions in the year, and two vacations of four weeks each in the spring and fall. The summer session begins on the first Friday in May and continues twenty weeks. The ensuing winter session will commence on Friday October 17th, and continue twenty-four weeks.

The price of tuition, payable in advance, is as follows:

English Department, Lower Class, for the summer-session \$7—winter-session \$8.

——— ——————— *Higher Class,* summer-session \$9—winter-session \$11.

Classical Department, summer-session \$11.50—winter-session \$13.50.

Additional charges per session, for use of recitation rooms 50 cents; globes, maps and philosophical apparatus 50 cents; and in the winter, fuel for recitation rooms 50 cents. Those who use the library pay 75 cents per session, which is appropriated to the purchase of books. Damages are charged to those who cause them.

Boarding and lodging, with washing, use of rooms and furniture included is from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per week.[13]

An advertisement appearing at the same time read as follows:

CLASSICAL INSTITUTION

Boarding.

Parents residing at a distance, who have wished to send their sons to the Classical Institution at York, having expressed the desire to board them in the family of one of the Professors, the Principal of the institution, Dr. Rauch, desirous of meeting the wishes of such parents, is now making arrangements to board and lodge a number of boys, who may be committed to his care, in his own family, from the commencement of the next session. For this purpose he has taken a large roomy house, with a spacious garden attached to it, in a retired and agreeable situation in town, where he can accommodate about twenty boarders. An object contemplated in this plan is to subject the boys, in their whole deportment, to the Principal's immediate and constant inspection, as a greater safeguard against the indiscretions of inexperienced and thoughtless youth, and a means of further improvement. A system of rules will be established to regulate the apportionment of their time to study, recreation, meals, religious duties and rest; to govern their demeanour in the family and elsewhere; to maintain cleanliness and decorum, and to form those habits and manners which will be useful to them and the community in subsequent life. Copies of these rules will be suspended in their rooms, and a strict observance of them will invariably be required.

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[13] Reprinted in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 1, 1834.

The price of boarding and lodging will be $1.75 per week. Washing $4.00 per session. Fuel, candles, stationary, &c. will be furnished and will constitute a separate charge.[14]

The Classical Institute started out under Dr. Rauch with very flattering prospects, and with the most confident expectation of its permanent success. The *Messenger* of March, 1833, tells the public that "the success of this institution since its commencement has equalled the best expectations of its friends, and letters are continually received from parents who wish to place their sons in it in the ensuing spring. The belief is that the number of pupils will in the next session amount to sixty. A number of small boys can be taken as boarders into the family in which Dr. Rauch shall reside, and where they will be continually under his inspection. Others can be accommodated in genteel families in town . . ."

Another reference of the period tells of an examination in the Classical Institute: "The examination of the students in the Classical School will take place in the lecture room of the German Reformed Church on the first Tuesday and Wednesday in April to commence on each day at 9 o'clock A.M. and 2 o'clock P.M. An exhibition by the students of the Classical School will take place on Thursday evening. The spring vacation will commence on Friday and continue in the Classical Institution four weeks, and in the Theological Seminary five weeks." [15]

Thus we see that the foundations were laid for a school for boys that emphasized the classical aspect of education. The school was more concerned with questions of knowledge and character than with administration. This perhaps was its strength, but it also proved to be its weakness. It was soon seen that administrative effectiveness was an essential part of any institution that was to endure.

[14] Reprinted in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 1, 1834.

[15] *Ibid.,* February, 1834.

CHAPTER III

The High School At York

IN spite of the increase in the number of students, it was found that the Classical Institution had difficulty in maintaining itself financially. The Treasurer's statement of the affairs of the school at the end of 1834 showed that the proceeds were not sufficient to cover expenses. He was authorized by the synod and the Board of Visitors to draw on the Seminary treasury for $2037.86 to make up the deficiency. In this deficiency the whole expenditure for three years is included, together with school apparatus, rents, and furniture.

Two suggestions were made for the solution of the difficulty: a change in the course of instruction or a change in the location of the school. The committee of the synod believed that if the school were properly located it would eventually yield a revenue to the institution. The faculty suggested to the Board of Visitors an alteration in the course of instruction and a change in the title of the school from "Classical Institution" to "The High School at York, Pennsylvania."

The Board of Visitors accepted the suggestion and reorganized the school and the courses of study. "Since the close of the winter session," they advertised, "this institution has received a new organization, with the title of HIGH SCHOOL, instead of *Classical Institution,* as more indicative of its grade and character. The full course of studies to be pursued in it will require four years for those who are prepared to enter the *first* class. There will be four classes, denominated the *first, second, third,* and *fourth,* and the studies of each class will occupy one year. Besides these four, there is a preparatory class consisting of beginners who are not yet qualified for admission into the first class of this course."[1]

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[1] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 15, 1835.

Furthermore, they circulated an elaborate list of rules and regulations for the students, which is now reproduced in full:

RULES AND REGULATIONS
of the
HIGH SCHOOL
at
YORK, PENN.
Printed by Direction
of the
BOARD OF VISITERS
YORK, PA.
Printed by
D. May
1835

Professors

REV. F. A. RAUCH, D.P., *Principal*
S. W. BUDD, A.M.
REV. C. DOBER

TERMS

There are two sessions in the year, and two vacations of four weeks each in the spring and fall. The summer session begins on the first Friday in May, and continues twenty weeks. The winter session will commence on Friday October 17, and continues twenty-four weeks.

The price of tuition, payable in advance, is as follows:

For the full course

Summer session, $11.50. Winter session, $13.50.

For that part of the course embracing the English studies and Mathematics:

Summer session, $9.00. Winter session, $11.00.

For that part embracing the English studies only:

Summer session, $7.00. Winter session, $8.00.

Additional charges per session, for the use of recitation rooms 50 cents; globes, maps, and philosophical apparatus 50 cents; and in the winter session fuel for recitation rooms 50 cents. Those who use the library pay 75 cents per session, which is appropriated to the purchase of books. Damages are charged to those who cause them.

Boarding and lodging, with washing, use of rooms and furniture included is from $1.50 to $1.75 per week.

LAWS OF THE INSTITUTION

Of the Officers Individually

The officers of the Institution are the Professors.

They are responsible for the full execution of the laws and for the faithful instruction of the students.

It is the duty of each officer to exert himself to carry into effect every regulation of the Institution, and he is clothed with sufficient authority to make himself and the laws respected; he is never to suffer any transgression of them known to him to pass without its due punishment.

An exemplary regard to moral and religious duties is expected of every officer of the Institution.

Of the Faculty

The Faculty of the Institution shall consist of all the officers.

A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. Every matter shall be decided by votes, and a Secretary shall be chosen, who shall keep a record of all the transactions of the Faculty and submit it to the Board of Visitors at their semi-annual meetings.

No act of the Faculty which is not recorded by their order shall be valid.

Of the Building

A person shall be appointed to inspect the building of the Institution and see that it be kept in good repair. If any damage is done, of which the authors can be discovered, he shall charge them for the repairs which shall be necessary, and if the offenders cannot be discovered, the expense shall be levied upon the class occupying the room in which the injury has occurred.

Punishment

The punishments of the Institution are of the moral kind and addressed to the sense of duty and the principles of honor and shame. They are the following: Private admonition by an officer of the Institution—receiving admonition and making confessions before the faculty—public admonition in the presence of all the students and public profession of penitence there—suspension from the Institution for a limited time—being put upon probation so that the next offence shall occasion dismission—dismission—formal expulsion.

The selection of any of these punishments shall always be by a vote of the Faculty, excepting private admonition, which any officer shall apply as may appear to him necessary, and expulsion, which shall be sanctioned by the Board of Visiters before its final infliction.

The Faculty are to judge whether the circumstances of an offence aggravate or extenuate its nature and suit the penalty accordingly. The repetition of offences is always an aggravating circumstance.

The students are forbid associating with an expelled student, and such student shall never afterwards be admitted into the Institution.

Of Admission

No person shall be admitted into the Institution who is not master of spelling, reading, penmanship, and arithmetic as far as the Vulgar Fractions.

No student shall be considered a member of the first class, until he shall have read Caesar's Commentaries, Virgil's Eclogues and Jacob's Greek Reader, and unless he is well acquainted with the Latin and Greek Grammar, Arithmetic, English Grammar and Geography, and no one shall be admitted to a higher class who is inferior to the class which he purposes to enter. No person shall be admitted into the Institution from any other school without producing a certificate from the authorities of such school that he has left it without censure.

A meeting of the Faculty shall be held on the fourth Saturday from the commencement of every session for the purpose of ascertaining whether every student shall have paid the Treasurer's bill for that session, and every student who has not done so shall be considered as suspended from the recitations of the Institution until the demands of the Treasury are satisfied.

If any person be admitted into the institution after the commencement of a session but before the middle of it, he shall pay the tuition money for the whole session: if after the middle of a session, he shall pay only the half. To prevent excuses arising from ignorance of these laws, every student on his admission to the Institution, shall pay to the Treasurer 12½ cents, for which he shall receive a printed copy of them.

Every student shall be required to promise to obey all the laws of the Institution, and the Faculty shall keep a book in which the students shall inscribe their names as having acquiesced in and solemnly promised to obey the laws of the Institution.

Of Study

Every student shall diligently apply himself to such studies as shall be prescribed to him by his teacher, who shall also appoint the time and place for the recitations of the class he instructs.

When a student is absent from his recitation without the permission of his instructor, and has not a sufficient excuse, he shall be reprimanded by his instructor according to the nature of the offence, and if such absences are frequent, he shall be brought before the Faculty to receive such punishment as may be deemed necessary.

At the close of each session, every class shall be examined on all the studies of that session, and at the end of each year, on all the studies of that year. But if a deficiency be discovered which may be made up by diligence, the ensuing vacation may be allowed for that purpose, and an examination of the party may take place at the commencement of the next session.

Of Composition and Declamation

All the students in rotation shall attend to the exercises of Declamation and Composition as often as the Faculty may direct.

Occasional exercises in public may also be assigned.—Nothing personal, indecent, profane, or immoral, shall at any time be delivered on the public stage. And to preserve the public exercises from impropriety of any kind, every student shall at least two weeks before the delivery, show to one of the Professors of the Institution, the whole of what he proposes to speak, and submit to such corrections as shall be made in his performance. And if any student pronounce any thing in public of a censurable nature, in contradiction to the direction of the officer to whom he may have shown his piece, the officer who presides at the exercises is required to stop him on the public stage, and he shall be otherwise punished as the Faculty shall decide.

Of Moral Conduct

Every student shall attend public worship on Sunday and shall be careful to exhibit a reverential deportment; and all practices inconsistent with the proper observance of the Lord's day, are expressly prohibited. No student shall possess or exhibit any indecent picture, or read improper books, or be guilty of lying, profaneness, drunkenness, theft, playing at unlawful games (as card, dice, &c.) or other gross improprieties, under penalty, according to the nature of the offence, of private or public admonition, dismission, or expulsion from the Institution.

No student shall be allowed to quarrel with, insult, or abuse in any way a fellow student, or any person whatsoever, and every student shall be responsible for improprieties committed in his room, unless he give information of the person or persons from whom they proceeded. No student shall bring or cause to be brought into his room any spirituous or fermented liquors without urgent necessity nor then without the express permission of the Teacher of his class.

No student shall go to a tavern, eating-house, beer-house, or any place of such kind, for any purpose whatsoever, without permission from some member of the faculty; and the purpose for which any student shall desire to go to any of these places shall be by him specified to the officer from whom he shall ask permission; and the permission obtained shall be considered as granted for that purpose only; nor shall the time of continuance at such place be greater than that for which permission shall have been given.

No students shall, on any occasion, keep company with persons of publicly bad character under penalty of admonition, and if the practice be continued, of dismission or expulsion.

It is required of all students to treat all persons with whom they have intercourse, with decency, modesty, and respect, but especially to exhibit the most respectful deportment to the officers of the Institution; and if any student shall disobey any of the lawful commands of the teachers, or shall either in speech or action, manifest disrespect towards any of them he shall be admonished, ask the forgiveness of the offended party, or be suspended, according to the nature of his offence and the decision of the faculty.

If any student shall refuse to appear personally before any officer, when required to do so, he shall be punished for contempt of authority.

Immediate and implicit obedience shall be yielded by every student to the lawful commands of every officer of the Institution, under penalty of punishment for contempt of authority.

If any students remain in the town during the vacation, they shall be subject to all the laws respecting decent and orderly conduct, and shall be under the control of the officers of the Institution who remain there during the vacation.

Miscellaneous Regulations

No shouting, jumping, or any other boisterous noise shall be permitted in the entries or rooms of the building under penalty of such punishment as the nature of the case may require.

As it may sometimes happen that a student may become a dangerous and corrupting member of the Institution, yet it may not be practicable formally to establish his criminality, the Faculty shall first warn such student, and if reformation does not take place, shall request his parent or guardian to remove him from the Institution.

No student shall keep for his use or pleasure any horse, dog, gun, or fire-arms and ammunition of any description, or any dirk, sword, or other deadly weapon. No student shall hire any horse or carriage for the purpose of amusement, exercise, or business, without the permission of some officer of the Institution.

In every certificate of dismission from the Institution, the circumstances of the dismission shall be specified and if desired, the scholarship of the student stated as accurately as possible.

A student who has been dismissed by the discipline of the Institution, shall have refunded to him the proper proportion of what he has advanced to the Treasurer; but if the dismission be granted at his own request, no such deduction shall be made.

Whereas cases may occur not distinctly provided for in these laws, the Faculty are authorized to make such additional regulations as, from time to time, may be necessary, and these, when announced, shall be obeyed as promptly as the printed laws.

The following is the course of study which is pursued, but a dispensation from part of it may be obtained by a vote of the Faculty.

First Class

Cicero's Orations,
Xenophon's Anabasis,
Virgil's Aeneid,
Homer's Iliad, *commenced,*
Bourdon's Algebra,
Legendre's Geometry, *two books,*
Ancient Geography,
Antiquities,
Follen's German Reader.

Second Class

Horace's Odes, with Dorring's notes,
Homer's Iliad, *completed,*
Livy,
Plato's Republic,
Geometry, *completed,*
Mensuration,
Analytical Geometry, 1st sec. Young's,
Trigonometry (Cambridge), Mensuration
Schiller's Thirty Years War,
History,
Mental Philosophy.

Third Class

Horace's Epistles and Satires,
Sophocles—Rex,—Oedipus in Colono,
Plato's Republic, *completed,*
Cicero de Oratore,
Surveying and Navigation,
Conic Sections, (as contained in Young's Analytical Geometry)
Mensuration, *completed,*
Calculus, (Cambridge)
Logic,
Goethe's Goetz of Berlichingen,
Herschel's Introductory Lecture on Natural Philosophy,

Fourth Class

Tacitus,
Pindar,
Moral Philosophy,
Natural Philosophy,
Chemistry,
Blair's Rhetoric,
Goethe, *continued.*

N.B. A year to be given to the studies of each class.[2]

Nothing is said in these rules and regulations about one of the most important features of the student activities of a century ago, namely, the organization and work of the literary societies. The theological students began a Society of Inquiry which is still in existence in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.; the students of the newly formed High School also created for themselves two college literary societies, which are still known at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., under their original names, "*Goethean*" and

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[2] Pamphlet preserved in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

"*Diagnothian.*" Samuel R. Fisher, a student in the Seminary, appears to have been the inspiring genius of all these organizations, as the following letters show:

(1)

February 10, 1835.

To The Editor of
'*The Philadelphian*'

Rev. and Dear Sir,

You, in all probability, have some knowledge of the existence of a Theological Seminary and Classical School, in this place, connected with the German Reformed Church. In behalf of many of the students of these institutions it is, that I now address you. The Theological students, in connexion with some of the students of the classical department, who also have the ministry in view, have, for some time, had a society of inquiry in existence among them. The object of this society, like that of similar societies in kindred institutions, is to collect facts relative to the condition of the heathen world, the state of the church at home, the movement of the benevolent institutions of the day, &c., and thus to ascertain the wants of the whole church and the requirements, which she makes of those who are preparing for the gospel ministry. We consider the accomplishment of this object, not only as necessary to enable us to arrive at a knowledge of what is duty, but also, as indispensable to a proper preparation for the office to which we aspire, in what field soever we may be called to labor. Heretofore we have struggled under great disadvantages in the prosecution of our design, from the want of proper sources, whence to derive our information, and, knowing no other remedy, we have at length come to the conclusion, to throw ourselves upon the benevolence of editors of religious periodicals, for the relief of our necessities. At a late meeting of the society, it was resolved to open a reading room, and to invite such editors as may be disposed to favor our object, to send us their publications, and the undersigned was instructed to write to several of them on this subject.

As the most of us, like theological students generally, are in very dependent circumstances, we feel ourselves unable to pay for any thing more than the postage on such periodicals as may be sent us, and must, therefore, depend entirely upon the good will of the respective editors to send them, free from the expense of subscription.

Will you have the goodness to forward the "Philadelphian," and to aid us in any other way you may think proper? and all will be most gratefully acknowledged.

Direct to "Society of Inquiry, Theological Seminary, York, Pa."

Yours in the bonds of the gospel,

SAMUEL R. FISHER[3]

(2)

To the Ministers and Lay Delegates, who are to compose the Synod of the German Reformed Church, to be held a[t] Chambersburg, Pa., during the week commencing on the 27th of September, 1835.

Rev. and dear Sirs,

At a joint meeting of the students of the "Theological Seminary of the German Reformed Church," and of the "High School of York, Pa.," the undersigned were appointed a committee to address a communication to you, through the medium of the "Messenger," representing the inconveniences with which they are encumbered in their present circumstances, and respectfully soliciting that such decisive measure be taken, as will provide for their immediate relief.

* * * *

The importance of literary societies to the inmates of literary institutions, and the intimate connection which subsists between their prosperity and that of the institutions themselves, are known and acknowledged by all who are acquainted with their nature. It is in such societies that young men acquire the capacity of "turning to account" every acquisition which they secure by the exercises that are assigned to them by their professors; and it is the endearing and permanent attachments which they form in them, that bind them more closely than any other tie, to the institutions themselves. We have two such rival literary societies among ourselves, and judging from what has already transpired, during the short period of their existence, we have every reason to believe, that they will be attended with those happy effects which they are designed to produce, provided those conveniences are furnished which are essential to their prosperity, if not to their very existence. That they may be placed upon that footing upon which it is desirable to have them placed, it is indispensably necessary that they be provided with suitable and commodious halls in which to hold their meetings, and with convenient rooms in which to keep their libraries and other apparatus, and that these halls and rooms be in their permanent possession. That we are now destitute of these conveniences, it will not be necessary to inform you. This fact is, doubtless, already sufficiently well known, and need not, therefore, be further insisted upon here.

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[3] Quoted from the *Philadelphian* by the *Reformed Church Messenger*, March 15, 1835.

We have also a "Society of Inquiry" in existence among us. This society is especially important to those young men who are aspiring to the gospel ministry. It is in it that they acquire that knowledge of the religious state of the world, and of the various plans for doing good, which is essential to success in their future ministerial labors. To furnish ourselves with the facilities necessary to enable us to secure the object of our association, we have opened a reading room, and receive in it the choicest weekly and monthly religious periodicals. To make this reading room properly subservient to the purposes of its erection, it is necessary that we have a room in the buildings of the institutions, appropriated exclusively to this purpose, which may also serve as the place for holding the meetings of the society, and in which to keep its library. For the want of such a room, we are, at present, compelled to throw ourselves upon the kindness of two of our fellow students, who permit us, for the time being, to keep our periodicals in their private room. It is easy to be seen, that in these circumstances, our reading room must necessarily be much curtailed in its usefulness. It is altogether at the mercy of two of our fellow students for its very existence, and the inconvenience that is attached to every other situation, excepting one in the buildings of the institution, and the delicacy which every one of proper sensibility must feel in intruding upon the privacy of a fellow student oftener than is absolutely unavoidable, must without fail prevent it from being frequented as much as it ought to be, and as it would be in any other circumstances.

From the tenor of our remarks, you will have perceived that the principal cause of our inconveniences result from the want of suitable buildings. These are indispensably requisite, not only to furnish our different societies with the rooms necessary for their accommodation, but also to provide suitable lecture rooms for the different professors, and for the preserving of philosophical and chemical apparatus, &c., which every literary institution ought to possess. Of this latter fact, however, you are, without doubt, fully aware, and it will, therefore, be improper for us to expatiate upon it further.

We have now briefly stated the disadvantages which are necessarily connected with our present circumstances. It is to you, the representatives of the Church, that we appeal for their immediate removal. In our opinion, it is you, and you alone, who have it in your power to afford us the necessary relief, and we hope that you will not delay to extend it to us.

* * * *

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

In behalf of our fellow students,

SAMUEL R. FISHER,
JOHN G. WOLFF,
ANDREW S. YOUNG,
WM. F. COLLIFLOWER,
MOSES KIEFFER,
HENRY WILLIARD.
} Comm.[4]

York, Pa., Aug. 21st, 1835.

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[4] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 2, 1835.

One of the originators of these societies, Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, at the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the societies, gave a first-hand account of the event:

"On Monday evening, the eighth of June, 1835, the students of the institution known as the High School of York, Pa., convened in general meeting in one of the upper rooms of a plain, unpretending two-story brick building located on the west side of South George Street, about two squares from the centre of the town, for the purpose of creating, by one act, at the same time and place, two literary societies. Only twenty students were present though the high school had on its roll the names of a much greater number.

"An organization for mutual improvement had been in existence for many months previous, and was conducted with spirit, though many of the students were not members of it. But the interest in the organization was not equal to our desires. A new movement, it was thought, might be inaugurated, which would kindle more enthusiasm among the students and yield better fruit.

"It happened that there had been among us for the better part of a year, a young man who was a graduate of Jefferson College, then located at Canonsburg, Pa., who had been an active member of one of two rival literary societies, and was very zealous in advocating the wisdom and importance of similar organizations in the high school. His name was Samuel R. Fisher, and his roommate was J. H. Augustus Bomberger. Though a student in the Theological Seminary, Fisher freely associated and felt a lively sympathy with the students of the high school. He and his roommate had frequently discussed the question of rival societies among themselves. Besides the matter was time and again debated in private circles. Gradually the movement gained impetus, and at length a sufficient number declared themselves ready for the decisive step; then the memorable meeting on the eighth of June was convened.

"In recognition of the fact that Mr. Fisher had given the initiative to the movement, he was called to the chair, and John B. Cox, of Harrisburg, was made secretary. When the object of the meeting had been stated, two persons were appointed a committee to propose such a division to all persons present as they would think equal. The chair appointed John B. Cox and Jesse Steiner, who reported two lists of names, ten on the first list and ten on the second. On the first list stood the names of the Founders of the Goethean Society

Henry Williard
George W. Williard
Samuel R. Fisher
John B. Cox
Moses Kieffer
Isaac H. McCauley
William F. Colliflower
Daniel G. Hinkle
Amos H. Kremer
Daniel Miller

"On the second list stood the names of the Founders of the Diagnothian Society

Jacob Ziegler
Jesse Steiner
Andrew S. Young
Chas. F. McCauley
Isaac E. Hauser
George H. Martin
Michael Eyster
John R. Kooken
E. V. Gerhart
J. H. A. Bomberger

"This report of the committee dividing the high school students present into two classes was unanimously accepted and immediately the two divisions separated and convened, each in a room by itself. This transaction originated the Diagnothian and Goethean literary societies one year before the organization of Marshall College."[5]

From a sketch of the history of one of the literary societies taken from the corner-stone of the society hall which was later built at Mercersburg we learn that "from the first period of the society's existence the formation of a good library was regarded as an indispensable requisite to the attainment of the objects for which it was instituted. Accordingly, measures were taken immediately after its organization to obtain as many books as possible; and through the exertions of its members by the end of the session in which the society was formed it was in the possession of one hundred and

[5] *College Student* [Franklin and Marshall College], July, 1885.

thirty volumes, which had been contributed by the citizens of York and the honorary members of the society."[6]

Meanwhile, the students seemed to be more interested in their literary societies than in the meagre external equipment of the institution. The societies held their first meetings throughout the summer and early autumn of 1835. From the very beginning of their organization they developed a wholesome rivalry which became more intense and hostile as the number of members grew. The following letters, all written between June and September of 1835, give a glimpse of some of the activities of these literary organizations during this early period:

(1)

Mercersburg, Pa. 6 24 1835

Dear Sir,

My professional duties prevented me from acknowledging your note of Saturday evening, informing me I had recently been elected an Honorary member of the Diagnothian Literary Society.

For this mark of respect, I tender you, and through you, to the members of that respectable Society my unfeigned acknowledgements; and hope you may all enjoy health, happiness, and above all as you increase in Literary knowledge, you may daily grow in grace & in the knowledge of our Lord & Saviour, and richly enjoy the consolations of his Holy Spirit.

With due respect
I remain your Friend &c
P. W. LITTLE

Mr. J. H. A. Bomberger
Committee D. L. S.

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[6] MS. *Sketch of the History of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College* in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

(2)

(To the Diagnothian Literary Society)

Goethean Hall, Augt 25th 1835

Gentlemen,

We have the pleasure to inform you that A. C. Ramsey Esqr. of this place has accepted an invitation to deliver the anniversary oration before our Societies at the close of the present session, and we cordially invite you to unite with us in giving publicity to this matter, and in making all arrangements necessary for the delivering of the oration.

Our Society has instructed us to inform you that we are willing to yield to your wishes relative to the time of its delivery.

We have Gentlemen the honor to be

Respectfully yours &c

WM F COLLIFLOWER
SAML R FISHER
H. WILLIARD
Committee of the Goethean Lit Society

(3)

(To the Diagnothian Literary Society)

Goethean Hall, Sept 3rd 1835

Gentlemen,

We, with pleasure, acknowledge the reception of your communication of the 3rd instant, in which you inform us of the regulation your honorable body has made relative to making every necessary preparation for the ensuing anniversary. In compliance with this regulation the Goethean L Society has appointed a committee to concur with yours, and propose meeting this evening at 6 o'clock in the Classical institution.

We have the honor to be yours &c respectfully

WM F COLLIFLOWER

In behalf of the Com- of the Goe- L Society

(4)

(To Jacob Ziegler)

Sir,

I received your very polite favour this morning, informing me of my "election" "as an *Honorary Member* of the *Diagnothian Society* of the High School of the German Reformed Church." I accept of the appointment with much pleasure. In doing so would tender to the Society my sincere acknowledgements for the honour, they have been pleased to confer on me. It is needless to say, that I approve of the object of the Society—any one conversant with the nature of similar institutions must be convinced of their utility.

Be so good, sir, as to present to the Society my thanks, & best wishes for the welfare and future usefulness of each of its Members.

Yours, very Respectfully

JNO. F. FISCHER

York Sept. 14th 1835

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(5)

Goethean Hall Sept 22d 1835

To Members of Diag Soc,

The following is the result of the meeting of the Goethean Literary Society with respect to the ensuing Anniversary.

Resolved, That we have no band on that occasion.

And further Resolved, That if the Diag Society do have a band, we do not join with them in the procession.

Yours very Respectfully

A. H. KREMER
S. A. RIED
H. T. HIESTER
} Committee of G. L. S.[7]

The York period of this early educational endeavor had three stages. The first was the continuation of the Theological

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[7] All five letters are from Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

Seminary, the second the establishment of the Classical Department of the Seminary out of which emerged the Classical Institution, the third the more thoroughly organized York High School, so called because it was based on a German model known as the *Hohe Schule*. The question now arose as to whether the institutions should remain in York or have their permanent location elsewhere.

Chapter IV

The Removal to Mercersburg

FOR two years the question of the probable re-location of the Seminary and the Classical School was freely and publicly discussed. The discussion aroused ambitions in a number of communities that seemed anxious to invite and encourage literary and theological institutions to settle in their vicinity. An interesting rivalry developed in the southern part of Pennsylvania for the acquisition of the institutions.

As early as January, 1834, an article appeared in the *Lutheran Observer:* "An acquaintance in Mercersburg writes thus, 'I expect the Reformed Seminary will be located in Mercersburg. Last New Year's Day we had a meeting for the purpose of taking the matter into consideration. After passing some resolutions expressive of our desire to have it located here, the books were opened for subscriptions, and in a few minutes no less than 4,100 dollars were promised by a few individuals. Four gentlemen pledged themselves for $500 each, making $2000 jointly, the lowest subscription of the paper was $100, and we have determined to raise $10,000. This excels Gettysburg and vicinity by far.' "[1]

The Mercersburg circular letter was sent to all the ministers of the Reformed Church in North America on June 27, 1834. It was signed by a committee of five leading citizens who apparently represented the wishes of the entire community. The circular is worthy of preservation in this narrative:

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[1] Quoted by the *Reformed Church Messenger,* January, 1834.

To the ministers of the German Reformed Church in North America the following Circular letter is very respectfully addressed:

At a public meeting recently held in the town of Mercersburg, Franklin county, Penn. to deliberate upon the contemplated removal of the Theological and Classical Institutions which are now situated in York, Pa. with a view to their permanent location in Mercersburg, the undersigned persons were appointed a committee to obtain and communicate to the ministers of your Churches such information as may be desirable relative to their location in this place; and connected with this, to give some information respecting public sentiment with regard to morals, religion, education, &c.—also, to impart such intelligence as they may possess in relation to the probable expense of living, building, and the prospect of obtaining students.

To the discharge of their duty the Committee proceed with some degree of reluctance; yet they are encouraged by the reflection that they have abundance of facts to present wherewith to influence, they hope, in some small degree the decision of your Synod. It becomes necessary in a circular of interest and character such as this, to give a fair, impartial and unexaggerated narration of facts, knowing that upon this depend consequences of much moment.

The committee are sensible of the fact, that under all circumstances, and in every relation of life, is man bound by the strongest and most solemn obligations to represent matters fairly and impartially. No necessity, how imperious soever, can excuse or plead in extenuation of an untruth. Yet there may exist a peculiarity of circumstances which occasionally render a little embellishment necessary and expedient—but we are of opinion that the matter now under consideration is not of this character—it is of too grave and serious import to admit the smallest embellishment—this being the case, we shall endeavour to give a candid and unbiassed statement of facts, as we, in our humble judgement, apprehend them to exist. With regard to morality the Committee would observe that in their opinion Mercersburg stands upon an equality with most of the towns and villages in the state. In the town and surrounding neighbourhood morality of a sound character prevails—morality which is predicated upon the Christian faith—the morality of the gospel. The citizens in their general deportment are upright, moral and exemplary—and as respects religion suffice it to say that a large proportion of the inhabitants of the town and parts adjacent are professors of the Christian religion. These, together with other advantages of a local character which it possesses, render it, in the estimation of the Committee, and of citizens whose interests they have the honour to represent, a location highly eligible. Furthermore, the committee are of opinion that Mercersburg would afford a much more disirable [sic] location for an Institution of a Theological character than almost any other which might be procured. To students who may be so inclined, the same temptations are not presented, to engage in scenes of dissipation as in many of the surrounding larger towns. Here, however, do not misunderstand us and have us intimate that there is no immorality and vice among us. To induce such a belief is foreign from our intention. There is, alas! but too much of both—and where is the place, we would ask, entirely free from vice of every description? A happy place truly if any such can be particularized.

It appears to be the prevailing notion that $1.50 per week will procure boarding of the most respectable kind. And as to the probable expense incidental to the erection of suitable buildings, the Committee conclude, after having conferred on the subject, that they can be erected as low as at any other place in the state. It has been intimated that the amount of money requisite to procure the location of these Institutions permanently in any place would be $10,000. This sum the Committee have no hesitation in saying, can be obtained without difficulty, as *three fourths* of the whole amount is now subscribed by good and responsible persons.

Our opinion also in regard to students is, that there is as great a likelihood of obtaining a constant supply here as in any other place within our knowledge; and were the Institutions now here, and prepared to go into operation, there would, we have no doubt, be found many ready to enter as students in the various departments.

Mercersburg is situated in the south western part of the county of Franklin, enjoying the advantages of a beautifully diversified and fertile neighbourhood, unequalled by any other section in the county, and probably not much surpassed by any in the state, possessing the salubrity of the mountain air, and the best limestone water in abundance, which contribute to the general health, as well as comfort and convenience of the citizens. Society is large and extensive. The citizens are hospitable and kind, and in some degree enterprising and industrious. In short, the opinion of the committee, uninfluenced by personal or pecuniary considerations is, that the place possesses many conveniences and advantages of a physical as well as moral character adapted to the exigencies of such an Institution which recommend it highly to the consideration of your Synod at the next stated meeting; and could we present motives sufficiently strong to bring about a *special* meeting of that body, for the purpose of deciding immediately upon a location for these Institutions, it would be a desirable result.

The Committee, having now in a brief and imperfect manner discharged the duties which devolved upon them by virtue of their appointment, would respectfully leave the matter with the churches under your care, indulging a hope of their favourable exertions in behalf of the citizens of this place.

DANIEL SHAFFER,
ELLIOTT T. LANE,
ROBERT DICK,
P. W. LITTLE,
JACOB HOSLER.[2]

Mercersburg, Pa., June 27, 1834.

At the annual synod held at Pittsburgh in September, 1834, the Mercersburg circular received attention. It brought the question of relocation into the forefront of church discussion. The Pittsburgh *Christian Herald* in October, 1834, published the report of a committee chosen by the synod on the question of a new location for the Theological Seminary and the Classical School.

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[2] Reprinted *ibid.*, August 1, 1834.

CIRCULAR.

Proposed location of the Theological Seminary and Classical School of the German Reformed Church.

The undersigned, a committee appointed for the purpose, by the Synod of the German Reformed Church, now in session at Pittsburgh, represent,

That Synod has resolved to call a special General Synod, to meet at Harrisburgh, on the first Monday in December next, for the purpose of determining upon the permanent location of their Theological Seminary and Classical School, and of transacting such other business as may then and there come before them.

Both these institutions have for some years past, been located at York, in this state, and are in prosperous circumstances. They are under the care of competent professors and teachers, and a considerable amount of funds has been contributed for their endowment.

The advantages of such institutions, both in a literary and moral point of view, to a community, are unquestionably great; and they appear to be appreciated. Proposals, inviting their removal from York, and presenting strong inducements to Synod to do so, have already been made from the inhabitants of more than one respectable town in this Commonwealth; but it has been thought best, before a selection is made, to give public notice of the determination of Synod, permanently to locate these valuable establishments, in order that all who may desire to compete for them, may have an opportunity of presenting their claims.

The undersigned, therefore, give this public notice of the intended meeting of a General Synod of the German Reformed Church, at the time and place specified, for the express purpose of permanently locating their Theological Seminary and Classical School: and they accordingly invite proposals from the good people of all such places as may desire to have them established among them. Such proposals must, as a matter of course, guarantee in a formal and legally binding manner, whatever offers they may embrace.

The Committee are also authorized to invite, and they do hereby invite the attendance of all ministers belonging to the church, and of all elders who may be delegated by their respective congregations, to be present at the said General Synod of the German Reformed Church, at the time and place above specified.

B. C. WOLFF,
WM. A. GOOD, } *Com.*
ROBERT DOUGLAS,

Session of Synod,
Pittsburg, Sept. 18th, 1834

N.B.—Papers friendly to the cause of religion and literature in the states of Pennsylvania and Maryland, will place to give the above an insertion.[3]

The report of the Board of the Classical School at the Pittsburgh Synod was very favorable. Seventy-four students were under instruction. Synod was delighted with the zeal and enthusiasm with which the professors and instructors were fulfilling their duties; and with the rapid growth of the institutions under their care.

A committee was appointed on new rules for the college and a special meeting of the synod was called for December, in Harrisburg, to settle the question of relocation finally.

Just prior to the Harrisburg session of Synod the following circular was published urging all places who wished to locate the Classical and Theological Institutions in their vicinity to make their propositions:

CIRCULAR

Proposed location of the Classical and Theological institutions of the German Reformed Church.

The undersigned having been appointed a committee to publish a circular in behalf of the Synod of the German Reformed Church, respectfully represent,

That in accordance with a resolution passed by the Synod of said church, at its annual meeting held in the month of September in the city of Pittsburg, a special convention was called on the first of the present month at Harrisburg, for the purpose of receiving proposals from all such places as may be desirous of having the above institutions located among them. From several respectable towns very flattering proposals have already been received, but as it is understood that from other places similar ones would have been presented if sufficient time had been given to make the necessary exertions, it was therefore deemed expedient to defer the decision of this important measure, until the next annual meeting of the Synod to be held in Chambersburg, Pa., in the month of September, 1835.

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[3] Reprinted *ibid.,* October 15, 1834.

The character of the proposals to be offered and which may expect to meet attention, may be learnt from the following resolution passed during the session of the convention at Harrisburg, on the third of this month, viz.

"*Resolved,* That the committee be and is hereby instructed to give public notice as far as may be, to all such places in the German Reformed church who wish the location of her Classical and Theological institutions to make their propositions in regular form of writing, and accompanied with sufficient responsibility."

In conclusion the committee would only add, that the above institutions have for several years past been in successful operation in the borough of York, Penn'a, under the direction of Professors of acknowledged scientific and literary attainments.

All Communications relative to the above subject, may be addressed (postage paid) to the individual first named on this committee, at Gettysburg, Penn'a.

Signed. B. S. SCHNECK,
JACOB GEIGER,
J. CASPAR BUCHER,
JOHN C. BUCHER,
JOSHUA MOTTER,
Committee[4]

Session of Convention,
Harrisburg, Dec. 4, 1834.

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[4] *Ibid.,* January 1, 1835.

The proceedings of the Harrisburg convention will explain themselves in the following report made by a committee to whom was referred the subject of the location of the Seminary and Classical School:

The committee to whom the subject of the location of the Seminary and Classical school was referred made the following report, which report was adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the subject of the permanent location of the Seminary and Classical School of the G. R. Church, having had submitted to their consideration, very favorable propositions from the citizens of Mercersburg and Chambersburg, in Franklin county, also certain propositions from the towns of York and Lancaster, deeming the subject of vital importance to the best interests of society, and to our church especially, they do not consider that sufficient time and opportunity has been had, to make a final and determined conclusion of this matter. But they recommend to Synod, to appoint a committee of five persons, three clergymen and two lay members, to be clothed with full power to visit each of the aforenamed places, and all others that may incited to offer in competition, to examine the properties proposed to be given by the donors, the situation of the places, and their respective advantages, with all other offers that may be made, and make a report of the whole matter referred to them, at the next meeting of the Synod, to be held in Chambersburg, in September next.

DANIEL ZEIGLER,
JOHN C. BUCHER,
HENRY B. SHAFFNER,
JOHN KNODE,
DANIEL G. BRAGONIER,
RICHARD A. FISHER,
JESSE B. KNIPE,
JACOB WEAVER.

The committee consists of the Rev'd B. S. Schneck, J. Geiger, and J. C. Bucher, and elders J. C. Bucher and Joshua Motter.

Resolved, that the committee request all those places in the G. R. church, who wish the location of her institutions, to make their proposals in regular form of writing, accompanied with sufficient responsibility.[5]

* * * *

The whole knotty question was finally settled at a gathering of the church synod held in Chambersburg from September 27 to October 5, 1835. At this meeting a communication from the Board of Trustees of Franklin College in Lancaster was laid on the table. A committee that had been appointed in Harrisburg to visit prospective locations, reported favorably for Mercersburg. The importance of the action of synod which brought the institutions of the Church to Mercersburg impels us to reproduce for this generation the proceedings of the Synod in detail:

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE SYNOD OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH

Tuesday Morning.

* * * *

The Committee on the removal of the Seminary were not prepared to report, and asked for leave to sit again. It was granted.

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(Tuesday) Afternoon Session.

The committee on overtures for the removal of the Seminary were prepared to report. The report was deferred, and made for order of the day for to-morrow afternoon, at three o'clock.

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(Wednesday) Afternoon Session.

The committee on proposals for the location of the Seminary, reported.

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[5] *Ibid.,* February 15, 1835.

The committee appointed by the convention held at Harrisburg in the month of December last, to visit and report those places from which proposals may be presented for the location of the Literary and Theological Institutions of the Synod of the German Reformed Church, beg leave to report,

That no additional proposals, since the meeting of the Convention referred to, have been heard from, with the exception of those of the Trustees of Franklin College, at Lancaster, in this State—and these having been brought directly before Synod, in consequence of the short space of time intervening between their adoption by that Board and the meeting of this Synod, your Committee do not therefore consider it as coming within their province to say anything in regard to them. We would, however, make the passing remark, that the Chairman of this committee, having understood that such a measure was spoken of by the Trustees, and a request to that effect having been made by one of their numbers, visited the place and will be able, if need be, to give some information, in regard to matters connected with the proposals made by the Trustees of Franklin College.

In regard to the proposals from the town of Mercersburg, the Committee need scarcely say what are its contents, inasmuch as that proposal was presented a year ago to the Synod at Pittsburg, and now accompanies this report, lettered A.

A part of the Committee have recently visited Mercersburg, and are gratified to have it in their power to state that not only will they be considered responsible for the $10,000 offered last year, but are disposed to offer inducements in addition, which we think are neither insignificant nor few. As these are, however, chiefly of an individual character, your Committee do not deem it proper to make mention of them here. The location of Mercersburg is healthy, and surrounded with scenery at once striking and beautiful. The number of inhabitants [is] less than one thousand. The Turnpike road from Pittsburg to Baltimore passes through the town, and other public roads from Chambersburg and Hagerstown.

Your Committee cannot refrain from noticing the apparent concern and deep solicitude which is felt by the citizens of Mercersburg in regard to the institution referred to. There appears to be an universal interest manifested in their behalf—which would lead us naturally to expect not only a favorable reception and hearty welcome, if Synod should see sufficient reasons to remove them thither—but that they would foster and cherish them, as much as in them lies.

It is confidently expected by them that a final decision will be made on the subject by this Synod at its present session—having been already delayed so long beyond the time, when it was expected that a final decision would be determined upon.

In regard to propositions from Chambersburg, your Committee would merely remark that they contain a tender of the Chambersburg Academy, by the trustees thereof—a handsome two story brick building, sixty by forty feet, which, together with the one and a half lot of ground, on which it is erected, is estimated at $4,000. Besides this, a subscription of six thousand dollars is presented, payable in five annual installments, and to be paid to the proper authorities, to be expended as Synod may think proper.

Inasmuch as it will be necessary for Synod to confer with the Committee on the part of the citizens of this place in reference to their proposals, and inasmuch as Synod are now on the spot to satisfy themselves of the local advantages and other claims of the town of Chambersburg, your Committee deem it needless to make any additional remarks.

All of which is respectfully submitted

In behalf of the Committee,

BENJAMIN S. SCHNECK,
Chairman of Com.

The report was accepted.

Synod then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, the Rev. D. Zacharias in the chair, on the subject of the removal of the Seminary,

Proposals from the trustees of Franklin College, in Lancaster, from the citizens of Chambersburg, and the citizens of Mercersburg, were then read, and after some discussion, the committee rose, and

Synod resolved, that a committee be appointed to confer with a committee of the Trustees of the Chambersburg Academy, and with any other persons that may desire to communicate with them upon the subject of the location, &c., and to consider and report upon all documents in any way connected with the location of the Seminary and Classical School at York. The committee are, the Rev. Messrs. Schneck, Bruner, and Sprole, and Elders Snyder and Grimes.

* * * *

Thursday Morning

The committee to confer with the trustees of the Chambersburg Academy, reported.

It was resolved, that the proposals from the trustees of Franklin College, be first considered.

It was then moved and seconded, that the proposals from the trustees of Franklin College be accepted.

Before the question was taken synod adjourned. . . .

* * * *

Afternoon Session

Synod resumed the unfinished business of the morning, viz.: "the acceptance of the proposals from Franklin College."

After hearing the opinion of members, the further consideration of the question was made the order of the day for to-morrow. . . .

* * * *

Friday Morning

Synod again took up the resolution to accept the proposals from Franklin College. After hearing the opinion of members, the resolution was laid on the table, to give an opportunity to consider the proposals from Chambersburg.

The consideration of the proposals from Chambersburg was arrested for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee on the report of the Board of Visitors. . . .

Friday Afternoon

Synod resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Bruner in the chair, for the purpose of considering the "proposals from Chambersburg."

After some time spent in a free interchange of opinion, the committee rose, and synod

Resolved, That the proposals from Chambersburg be laid on the table, in order to take up the "proposals from Mercersburg." After some discussion,

It was resolved, that synod now proceed to determine by ballot, which of the three places, offering proposals, shall be the place for the location of its institutions; and that, in this determining, the place having the smallest number of votes upon the first ballot shall be dropped, and upon the second ballot the vote shall be confined to the two remaining places.

A ballot was then taken, and, the name of each member being called, he deposited his ballot, and all the ballots having been collected and counted, it appeared that there was for no one of the places a majority of two thirds of all the votes; and Chambersburg having the smallest number of votes, was dropped, and synod proceeded to a second ballot;—when, the ballots having been taken in the same way, and counted, it appeared that there was for Mercersburg the required majority of two-thirds. It was then determined, that Mercersburg be the place for the permanent location of the Classical School and Theological Seminary under the synod's care.

It was then resolved, that, whereas, Messrs. Wm. McKinstry, Daniel Shaffer, Wm. Dick, and others, being citizens of the town and vicinity of Mercersburg, in Franklin county, Pa., have, by a document, laid before synod, assembled in Pittsburg, Pa., in September, 1834, pledged themselves to procure and present to synod, a subscription of ten thousand dollars, on condition that the Classical School and the Theological Seminary, under synod's care, and now located in York, Pa., be removed and located, permanently, in or at the town of Mercersburg; which pledge was repeated in a document laid before synod, convened in Harrisburg, Pa., in December of the same year, by Messrs. Wm. McKinstry, Daniel

Shaffer, Wm. Dick, Wm. Metcalf and Wm. Weis, being a committee in behalf of the citizens of Mercersburg; both of which documents, with the pledge contained therein, are now again laid before synod; and whereas, it has been stated to Synod, by Rev. Jacob Mayer, of Mercersburg, and Rev. B. S. Schneck, chairman of the committee, appointed by the synod at Harrisburg, in reference to proposals for the location of the above named institution, that, in addition to the ten thousand dollars, beforementioned, the stockholders in the Academy situated in Mercersburg do further agree to convey to trustees, to be appointed by synod, in fee simple, the house and lot belonging to said Academy, and moreover, to raise the said building to the height of two stories, and put it into suitable order for the accommodation of the classical institution; and, further, that Wm. McKinstry, Esq., and Wm. Metcalf, citizens of Mercersburg, agree to give the use of two dwelling houses, suitable for professor's residences, without charge of rent, until other buildings have been erected; Therefore,

Resolved, That these proposals be accepted by synod, and that as soon as all the stipulations be carried into effect, and the payment of the ten thousand dollars be secured, to the satisfaction of the committee to be appointed by synod to superintend the removal of the institutions, then, and in that case, the Theological Seminary and Classical Institution shall be located, permanently, in or at the said town of Mercersburg, provided, that no such removal be required to take place before the close of the next winter session.

Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. Rice, Rebaugh, and Good, and Elders Heyser, King, and Bantz, be a committee to superintend the removal of the institutions to Mercersburg, and that the expenses be paid out of the synodical fund.

Resolved, That the following persons be a Board of Trustees of the Classical Institution, in whom the property of the Academy in Mercersburg shall be vested, and that they be authorized to procure a charter, which, if approved by synod, shall be valid and binding, viz.:

John E. Hoffman, *of Reading,* Daniel Shaffer, Wm. McKinstry, Elliott T. Lane, Dr. P. W. Little, William Metcalf, and William Dick, *of Mercersburg;* George Besore, *of Waynesboro;* Frederick Smith, Bernard Wolff, John Smith, Hon. G. Chambers, and Hon. A. Thomson, *of Chambersburg;* Peter Schell, *of Bedford;* David Krause, *of Harrisburg;* Peter Snider, *of Easton,* D. Middlecauff, *of Adams County;* Henry Snively, *of Greencastle.*

Whereas, the citizens of Chambersburg, Pa., have made proposals for the permanent location of the institutions under synod's care, in the borough of Chambersburg, evincing an interest in these institutions, and a liberality worthy of the synod's grateful acknowledgements, Therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of this synod be presented to the citizens of Chambersburg, for their generous and laudable exertions,

Whereas, the trustees of Franklin College, in Lancaster, Pa., have invited synod to locate its classical institution in that city, and have proposed, in that event, to appropriate to its use the buildings and available funds of the college,

Resolved, That, while the invitation is declined, on account of the preference given to a location in Mercersburg, synod are sensible of the kindness of the trustees of Franklin College, and request them to accept their unfeigned thanks.[6]

Saturday morning, Oct. 3

. . . On motion, it was resolved, That the Trustees of the Theological Seminary be, and they are hereby authorized, to sell the lots and buildings belonging to the Seminary at York, if they think it expedient, and invest the money arising from the sale thereof, for the benefit of the first professor's fund.[7]

The report of the Board of Visitors in the autumn of 1835 showed that the Seminary had twelve students and the Classical Institution sixty-eight students. The income of the Classical Institution during the six terms of its existence had been:

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[6] *Ibid.,* October 7, 1835.

[7] *Ibid.,* October 21, 1835.

Winter 1832–33	$128.85
Summer 1833	312.25
Winter 1833–34	527.85
Summer 1834	589.20
Winter 1834–35	682.00
Summer 1835	414.50

The total expenses were $5386.23. Since the total income was $2731.58 the Classical Institution had to borrow money from the Seminary to square its account, in spite of the fact that it had a large student body.

It is true that the lack of certainty as to where the institution was to go caused the number of students to decrease in the winter and spring of 1835. But now the die was cast. Synod's decision at Chambersburg in October was final, and the removal of the High School or Classical Institution to Mercersburg began at once. But the Theological Seminary lagged behind and did not move from York to Mercersburg until two years later.

CHAPTER V

The New Home—Mercersburg

JOHN MASEFIELD'S tribute to his native county, Herefordshire, can fittingly be applied to Franklin County, Pennsylvania, without doing violence to either truth or sentiment: "I know no land more full of the beauty and bounty of God than this shire of woodlands, orchards, lovely rivers and running brooks. There is no more lovely county in this lovely land. When men lived much in the beauty and bounty of the earth they were very conscious of the reality of heaven beside them."[1]

The new location of the Classical Institution was less than seventy-five miles from York, in the south central part of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, not far from the Mason and Dixon line. Franklin County had been cut out of Cumberland County in 1784, as Cumberland County had been severed from old Lancaster County in 1759. The larger part of Franklin County lies in the beautiful Cumberland Valley between the South and the Blue Mountains. There is no more charming region in the commonwealth than the stretch of highly cultivated acres in the Cumberland Valley. Fertile fields, rugged hills, numerous streams fed by mountain runs, meet the eye at every turn of the road. It is a place for contemplation, for the building of lovely shrines and for the companionship and growth of strong men.

The early settlers of the county were Scotch-Irish, a large proportion of whom later migrated west and south, following the advancing frontier. They were gradually supplanted by a German and Swiss population coming from the eastern counties of the state, an element that tilled the soil, established permanent homesteads, and made the region one of the most productive agricultural sections in the commonwealth.

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[1] *New York Times,* October 23, 1932.

Many of the descendants of the early Scotch-Irish settlers, however, remained, as the names of Armstrong, Brown, Baird, Carson, Duncan, Douglas, Dickey, Findlay, Magaw, McDowell, McKinstry, Patterson, and Scott testify. The county has furnished the nation and the world with some of its most eminent men, among them being James Buchanan, the fifteenth President of the United States; Thomas A. Scott, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; Governor William Findlay, who filled the executive chair of the state in 1870; Dr. John McDowell, the third provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and D. Hayes Agnew, one of the recognized leaders in surgery in America.

In the southwestern part of Franklin County lies Mercersburg, like a gem in a cup, a picturesque village surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills that might well be called mountains. Three miles from the town is a spur of the North Mountain "curving around like a sheltering arm from Mount Parnell on the north to Two-top on the south."

A traveler by the name of Powers, who for some years had been a missionary in Asia Minor, visited Mercersburg almost one hundred years ago, and recorded his first impressions in a very interesting way: "My entrance into Mercersburg was in the evening, and my first impression was that it was an out-of-the-way place. . . . The light of day, and a further acquaintance, however, removed that impression entirely. The rich landscape of green in every direction, the waving fields, the oaken groves with their charming shady walks, the beautiful range of mountains on the West, mantled in nature's loveliest garb, all conspire to render Mercersburg a delightful location. As I was walking alone in one of those charming shady groves . . . , 'What a paradise!' I involuntarily exclaimed. 'This is a beautiful world, after all, and would be a very comfortable habitation for man, had he not mingled in his own cup the bitter waters of sin.' And as for its retirement, this is all in its favor. There is nothing there to divert the mind of the student—no steamboats—no railroad cars—no city's hum—all is calm as an evening twilight, and invites to thought and studious toil."[2]

Within two or three miles of the town is a gorge in the Cove Mountain known as Cove Gap, through which in former days a primitive road led to a secluded glen. Nearby is Stony Batter, where a Scotch trader reared a future President of the United States amid the rude din of frontier life. For Mercersburg, in early days, was an important point in the trade carried on by the Indians and frontiersmen.

As early as 1729, James Black built a mill along the western branch of the Conococheague, which became the nucleus of a settlement. In 1780 William Smith acquired the ownership of the mill, and six years later his son, William Smith, Jr., laid out a town to which he gave his own name. "Smith's Settlement," however, was soon changed to Mercers-burgh in honor of a gallant surgeon and soldier, General Hugh Mercer, who had served the community along the Conococheague as a physician, had been commissioned in the French and Indian War, had won the friendship of General Washington, who characterized him as "the brave and worthy General Mercer"; had fought bravely in the Revolutionary army, and had given his life for the American cause in the Battle of Princeton. More fitting and permanent is the tribute paid by the simple folk of the Conococheague in naming their town in honor of General Hugh Mercer, than is his monument in Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Mercersburg was incorporated into a borough in 1831 and had at that time about seven or eight hundred inhabitants.

There must have been a strong group of aggressive men in the town in the early nineteenth century. It took courage and foresight for a small borough, recently incorporated, to make a definite appeal and offer of support for two literary and theological institutions. Of course, someone had to be the moving spirit of the enterprise. It appears that the pastor of Trinity Reformed Church at Mercersburg, the Rev. Jacob Mayer, was the chief instrument in uniting the leading men of the community in a public effort and a substantial pledge of support for the new educational institutions to be brought to Mercersburg.

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[2] *Reformed Church Messenger,* June 29, 1842.

It is true that Mercersburg had unusually fine educational traditions long before the new institutions were brought there. The old stone academy where James Buchanan studied Latin and Greek in the earliest years of the nineteenth century was still standing in 1835, and was offered to the York Classical School as temporary quarters until more adequate buildings could be secured or erected.

Less than two months intervened between the final action of the synod of Chambersburg in accepting Mercersburg's offer and the removal of the Classical School. During these two months the students, members of the church, and the people of Mercersburg looked forward eagerly and made preparations for the transition. In the *Messenger* of October 21, 1835, the following article was published:

"It is known to our readers that the Synod of the German Reformed Church, at its late session in Chambersburg, made choice of Mercersburg, as the place for the permanent location of the Theological and Classical Institutions. This decision of Synod was highly gratifying to the citizens of that place. And from the noble and liberal spirit they have thus far manifested, we have ample reason to believe, that they will do every thing in their power to foster and cherish these infant institutions. And, as public attention is now necessarily directed to the village to which these institutions are to be removed and permanently located, perhaps some account of it may be acceptable to many of our readers.

"The town was laid out by Wm. Smith, Esq., the original proprietor, in March, 1786, and was called Mercersburg, in honor of the memory of General Mercer. It is situated in Franklin county, Pa., in the great Cumberland Valley, surrounded by a fertile and productive country, presenting a scenery at once striking and beautiful. It is distant from the Capital of the United States, 80 miles, from Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania, 65, from Philadelphia 160, from Pittsburg 136, from Baltimore 80. To all these places there is ready access by the Pittsburg and Baltimore turnpike, which passes through Mercersburg, and intersects, in its course, other turnpike roads, that lead to the principal cities and towns of the United States. Other public roads lead to neighboring towns, as follows: to Chambersburg 16 miles, to Hagerstown 16, Frederick 42, Williamsport 18, and Clearspring 14. The latter place is near the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; and, of course, there must, in time, be considerable commercial intercourse between it and the town of Mercersburg.

"Mercersburg contains a population of something less than a thousand souls. For a village of its size, its mercantile business is considerable. Its citizens are generally characterized as industrious, enterprising, hospitable, and moral. It is favored with the institutions and ordinances of divine grace. It has a German Reformed and Lutheran, a Presbyterian, Methodist, and Seceder Church. . . .

"Mercersburg has always been a healthy place. The air from the adjacent mountains, and from the rich and highly cultivated valley in which it stands, is salubrious. The water in the town and country around, is good. There are three elevated and handsome sites for public buildings, adjoining the village, any of which may be obtained on reasonable terms for the Theological and Literary Edifices the Synod hopes to erect."

At the same time several other public notices appeared that help to throw light on this transitional period. Prof. Lewis Mayer printed a statement to the effect that because of "a severe and somewhat protracted illness from which I am slowly recovering it will be necessary to defer the commencement of the winter session in the Theological Seminary beyond the usual time. By divine permission the session will commence on the first Monday in November. Students are requested to be *in York* and to have their arrangements completed before the end of the preceding week."[3] This meant, of course, that Dr. Mayer and the Theological Seminary would not go to Mercersburg in the autumn of 1835.

The Classical Institute, however, was getting ready to move. Henry L. Rice, the chairman of Synod's committee to

[3] *Ibid.*, October 21, 1835. The notice is dated October 19.

superintend the removal of the Theological and Classical Institutions from York to Mercersburg, announced in public print that he had attended to the duties assigned; that "they had obtained from the citizens of Mercersburg a guarantee for the payment of $10,000 and for the fulfillment of their other stipulations proposed to Synod; and that the necessary arrangements had been made for the immediate removal and reception of the *Classical Institution.* In accordance with their arrangement we are authorized by the Rev. Dr. Rauch, the principal of the Classical Institution, to give notice that by the permission of Divine Providence, the Winter Session of said institution will commence on the first Monday of November next, at Mercersburg. The committee have also been authorized, by the citizens of Mercersburg, to say that they will be in readiness to accommodate all the students that may connect themselves with this Institution, and that boarding can be had at from $1.50 to $1.75 a week."[4]

That Mercersburg was making preparations for the coming of the students is seen in an advertisement appearing in the *Reformed Church Messenger* two weeks before the removal of the school; it is signed by "Senex," who "wishes to remain *incognito* until he can at least be convinced that he is not giving up a certainty for an uncertainty:"

"As it has been recently resolved upon to locate the Classical and Theological Institutions of the Reformed Church permanently at Mercersburg, it must be admitted that the establishment of a commodious boarding-house, in connection with these institutions, on such a cheap and economical plan, as would meet as near as possible the cases of our most indigent young men, is greatly to be desired. And that such an establishment would, if properly conducted, be the means of augmenting, greatly, the number of students in both institutions, cannot be doubted. For such is the thirst for intellectual improvement at the present time, such the urgent and increasing demand for men of education in every department of life, but more particularly in the church, that nothing but a want of pecuniary aid, could longer prevent hundreds of our most *pious and talented* young men from entering immediately upon a course of study that would better qualify them to discharge, with credit to themselves and greater advantage to the church, the duties of that sacred and responsible office, after which they so ardently aspire.

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[4] *Ibid.,* October 21, 1835.

"To remove as far as I can their obstructions, and to afford to as many as my limited means will permit, an opportunity of obtaining an education for as little, or, perhaps, less than it can be procured elsewhere, I propose opening a boarding-house in Mercersburg or its vicinity on the most saving and economical plan, so soon as the above-named institutions shall have been removed from York, provided I am sufficiently encouraged, in the interim, to justify the undertaking. The terms are certainly unusually low; for boarding, washing, lodging, and room-rent, *$1.25* a week, to be paid at the expiration of each session.

"Those students of York who expect to enter these institutions, as also parents and guardians who may feel disposed to encourage this enterprise, will please send on their names, free of cost, to the Editor of the *Messenger*."[5]

One can follow in imagination the journey of the eighteen boys and two professors from York to Mercersburg in the early November days of 1835. Probably the best record we have of that event comes from an eye-witness, Dr. A. H. Kremer, who wrote a graphic account in which he says that "fourteen of them were brought into the town of Mercersburg in two stages, seven in each. Four others were stragglers, who, with the faculty consisting of two professors, reached their place of destination in some other way. Seven of them were Diagnothians and eleven were Goetheans. This was about all that was left of the High School to be removed. Their arrival made quite a sensation in the village; every attention was paid to the strangers, and care exercised to provide them with suitable boarding houses. It was not long before they felt at home. The two teachers that came on with the students were Dr. Rauch and his faithful Achates, Prof. Budd."[6] "They

[5] *Ibid.*, October 21, 1835.

[6] Appel, Theodore: *Recollections of College Life*, Reading, Pa., 1886, p. 94.

were scholarly looking men, both carrying canes and both looking out upon the world through gold spectacles. The removal took place in such a comparatively short time after the action of Synod that there was no time for the erection of suitable buildings."[7] It had been hoped that the old stone academy could be used for recitation purposes, but it was soon found that the building was too dilapidated for actual use. Therefore, the new institution was compelled to make use of an old frame building west of the Diamond. "This building, after the organization of the college, was for some time occupied by the preparatory department and was finally destroyed by fire. The houses which had been promised to the professors were not ready, and during the first winter the school and its teachers suffered many privations."[8]

Within a week after the removal of the Classical Institution to Mercersburg the following letter appeared, which gives a splendid account of the situation and prospects of the school:

Mercersburg, 7th Nov. 1835

"*Mr. Editor:*—Our institution was opened here last Tuesday. All the students, who were present in the town, assembled in the German Reformed church, at 9 o'clock in the morning, and after a suitable address and prayer, the arrangement of the studies for the Winter Session was given to them.

"You, Sir, and our other friends, will be glad to hear, that we are already proceeding with the recitations of the institution, and, all circumstances considered, with much larger classes than could have been anticipated. Before this letter shall be published, we will probably be able to number forty students, and after it shall have become generally known, that our prospects are so flattering, we are informed that our accession will be yet very considerable during the winter. Ever since our first coming into Mercersburg, we have been overwhelmed with attentions, and we have the unanimous wish of our students from a distance, to permit them to join us in thanks to the generous inhabitants of Mercersburg for their polite reception of us, and their continued efforts to make our residence among them comfortable and happy. The Building Committee, appointed by Synod, came over yesterday, from Chambersburg, to visit the various sites suggested for our new building, and their selection will, no doubt, soon be announced. Before such intelligence could be given, we are aware that even our heartiest well-wishers could have felt diffident of our immediate success, but they must now feel assured that their prayers and good wishes will take effect, and that their fears, so kindly expressed, have been without foundation.

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[7] Appel, Theodore: "A Sketch of Marshall College." *Reformed Church Review,* vol. 34 (1887), p. 524.

[8] Dubbs, J. H.: *History of Franklin and Marshall College,* Lancaster, 1903, p. 169.

"For the information of the public, we think it proper to make a very few general explanations of the manner in which the institution will be conducted this year.

"At 9 o'clock in the morning all the students will be assembled in one of the recitation rooms, to prayer. After prayer, those who have not recitations at this hour, will retire to their boarding houses, where they will be expected to be engaged in study. The classes will be heard successively, in separate rooms, and each subject will generally occupy an hour. The beginners in the languages and mathematics will have recitations every day, but those more advanced will have longer recitations, usually three times a week on each subject. On each of the other subjects, the number of recitations a week, will be in proportion to its importance and extent.

"On Sunday all the students will be expected to attend one or other of the churches in the town, and in the afternoon a Bible recitation in the building.

"It may be well, also, to add, that our students have, generally, obtained boarding at one dollar and a half a week, and that the accommodations in the town are ample for any number more.

"The price of tuition is $12.50 for the winter, and $11.50 for the summer session, always payable within four weeks from the beginning of the session."[9]

[9] *Reformed Church Messenger*, November 11, 1835.

The two professors set to work at once, Prof. Rauch teaching all the Latin and Greek and occasionally lecturing on philosophy and German literature, and Prof. Budd teaching classes in mathematics and natural science as well as all the English branches. Within a very short time, a friend of the school wrote a communication in which he said, "The Classical Institution is thriving at an unanticipated rate. It will be remembered that but eighteen students accompanied her from York, yet, notwithstanding this, the number has already been raised by accessions to forty-eight, though three months have not yet elapsed. These are glorious facts."[10]

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[10] *Ibid.*, January 27, 1836.

Chapter VI

The Founding of Marshall College

WHEN the Classical Institution was taken to Mercersburg it had the name of a high school, but the curriculum of a college. The two university-trained professors arranged the students into college classes and prepared the first class for the earliest possible graduation. It was felt from the very beginning that the new institution would thrive best if it became an incorporated college with the privilege of granting degrees.

"At a meeting of the trustees of this institution, held at Mercersburg on Thursday, the twenty-sixth of November, 1835, the Board was regularly organized by the election of the Hon. Alexander Thomson, president, William McKinstry, vice-president, Dr. P. W. Little, secretary, Daniel Shaffer, treasurer.

"A committee was appointed to prepare a petition to the legislature for the erection of this institution into a college, and in testimony of respect for the exalted character and memory of John Marshall, late Chief Justice of the United States, said college is styled THE MARSHALL COLLEGE AT MERCERSBURG."[1]

The death of John Marshall had occurred on July 6, 1835, in the city of Philadelphia, whither he had gone for medical treatment. No man had been more highly regarded since the days of George Washington. Judge Story's eulogy of Chief Justice Marshall was printed in every newspaper and read at every fireside. One can readily see the fitness of attaching his name to a newly established educational institution.

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[1] *Reformed Church Messenger,* December 9, 1835.

The question has frequently been raised as to who made the original suggestion for the new name. The initiative probably came from the Rev. Barnard C. Wolff, pastor of the Reformed Church at Easton, Pa. Dr. Wolff was a Virginian by birth, a great admirer of John Marshall, and enthusiastic in his interest in the new college. There is a tradition that the name of Marshall College had been in the mind of a small group of men before the institution was moved to Mercersburg, and that John Marshall had been informed during his illness in Philadelphia of the possibility of a college being established in Pennsylvania which should bear his honored name, and that he had expressed himself as being highly gratified at the honor.

While the committee on securing an act of incorporation for the college was shaping its plans the students were busy in reorganizing their literary societies and arranging for public functions, as the following letter shows:

Mercersburg Febr 17th 1836

To the Presidents of the
Goethian & Diagnothian Societies

Gentlemen!

I have been asked today by one of your managers, which of the two churches would in my opinion be the most suitable place to hold your public debate next spring. To avoid mistakes I choose this method of informing you that I personally have *no* choice and only wish, that no offence may be given. If the Reformed Church be sufficiently large, however, I for my part cannot see any room for further discussion, since it is certain that the Reformed Church claims the honor, whilst to the Presbyterians, I presume it must be a matter of entire indifference, so that in passing by the Reformed you *must* give offence, whilst in taking the Presbyterian you will confer no favor. *Unless therefore you have very strong reasons for choosing the latter* I as a friend to peace would say take the former.

My name having been used to strengthen one party, I thought it necessary to make my sentiments known *to all* through you.

Very respectfully
Yours
F. A. RAUCH [2]

The Synod of Chambersburg had appointed eighteen members of the Board of Trustees of the Collegiate Institute in whom the property of the academy in Mercersburg was to be vested, and they were authorized to procure a charter, which, if approved by the synod, should be valid and binding, but the instructions were not taken literally. Instead of eighteen members of the Board of Trustees for the new institution, the charter committee selected forty-five of the most influential men in the eastern states as the new governing body. During the winter session of the legislature of 1835–36, the charter committee succeeded in having the act of incorporation passed by the assembly and the senate, and signed by Gov. Ritner on the thirty-first day of March, 1836. The charter was to go into effect on the ninth of November of that year.

MARSHALL COLLEGE

ORIGINAL CHARTER

AN ACT

To Incorporate the Marshall College at Mercersburg

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the high school of the German Reformed church, located at Mercersburg, in the county of Franklin, be and hereby is erected into a college, for the education of youth in the learned languages, the arts, sciences and useful literature.

SEC. 2. In testimony of respect for the exalted character, great worth, and high mental attainments of the late John Marshall, Chief

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[2] Marshall College MS. in Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

Justice of the United States, the said college shall hereafter be called and known by the name of the " Marshall College, at Mercersburg."

Sec. 3. The said college shall be under the management, direction, and government of a number of trustees, not exceeding forty-five, or a quorum or a board thereof, as hereinafter mentioned.

Sec. 4. The trustees of the said college shall consist of the following persons, to wit: William M'Kinstry, Daniel Shafer, P. W. Little, William Metcalf, Elliot T. Lane, Adam Hoke, George Chambers, Alexander Thompson, Thomas H. Crawford, Henry L. Rice, Barnard Wolff, William Heyser, Frederick Smith, Jacob Snider, Henry Snevely, Jacob Hade, George Besore, David Fullerton of Franklin, George Denig and Peter Schell of Bedford, N. P. Hacke of Westmoreland, David Middlecauf of Adams, Thomas Chambers of Franklin, William Heister and Charles F. Hoffmeyer of Lancaster, David Krause and Isaac Gerhardt of Dauphin, John W. Gloninger of Lebanon, John E. Hoffman, Berks, James Potter, Centre, Theodore L. Hoffiditz and Peter Snyder, Northampton, Samuel Helfenstein, sen., George Wolf, Joseph Ritner, George Troutman, Pennsylvania, Gideon Bantz, Henry Schley, John J. Myers, George Decker, Daniel Huyett, William A. Good, David Schnebly, of Maryland, John Jacob Astor and Dietrich Willers, New York, which said trustees and their successors, to be elected as hereinafter mentioned, shall be, and they are hereby erected, established, and declared to be a body politic and corporate, and with all the incidents of a corporation, in deed and in law, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, by the name, style and title of " The trustees of the Marshall college, at Mercersburg," by which name and title, the said trustees and their successors shall be able and capable at law and in equity, to take to themselves and their successors, for the use of said college, any estate in any messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels, monies or other effects, by gift, grant, bargain, sale, conveyance, assurance, will, devise or bequest, of any person or persons whatsoever: *Provided,* The same do not exceed in the whole the yearly value of five thousand dollars, and the same messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments and estates, real and personal, to grant, bargain, sell, convey, assure, demise, and to farm, let, and place out on interest, or otherwise dispose of or invest for the use of the said college, in such manner as to them, or at least a quorum of them, shall seem most beneficial to the institution; and to receive the rents, issues and profits, income and interest of the same, and to apply the same to the proper use of the said college, and by the same name to sue, commence, prosecute and defend, implead and to be impleaded, in any courts of law or equity, and in all manner of suits or actions whatsoever, and generally, by and in the same name, to do and transact all and every the business touching or concerning the premises, or which shall be incidentally necessary thereto, as fully and effectually as any natural person, or body politic or corporate, have power to manage their own concerns, and to hold, enjoy, and exercise all such powers, authorities and jurisdictions, as are customary in other colleges within this commonwealth.

SEC. 5. The said trustees shall cause to be made for their use, one common seal, with such devices and inscriptions thereon as they shall think proper, and by and with which all deeds, diplomas, certificates, and acts of the said corporation, shall pass and be authenticated, and the same seal at their pleasure to break and alter, and devise a new one.

SEC. 6. There shall be a meeting of said trustees held once in every year at least, at Mercersburg, at such time as the said trustees or a quorum of them shall appoint, of which meeting due and timely notice shall be given, and if less than a quorum attend at such meeting, those present shall have the power to adjourn to another day, but if twelve or more of the said trustees shall meet at the appointed time, or at any other time of adjournment, then such twelve or more of the trustees, shall be a board or quorum, and a majority of their votes shall be sufficient for transacting all the business and concerns of the said college not otherwise provided for by this act, and particularly of making and enacting ordinances for the government of the said college, of electing trustees in the place and stead of those who shall resign or die, of electing and appointing the principal and professors of the said college, of agreeing with them for their salaries and stipends, and removing them for misconduct, breaches of the ordinances of the institution, or other cause which shall be deemed sufficient, of appointing committees of their own body to carry into execution all and every the resolutions of the board, of appointing a president, secretary, treasurer and other officers, whom they may find necessary for managing the corporation, of providing for the punishment of all violations of the rules, regulations, or ordinances of the college, or other misconduct committed by the students or other persons thereat, and generally, at any annual, adjourned, or extra meeting, shall determine all matters and things (although the same are not herein particularly mentioned) which shall occasionally arise, and be incidentally necessary to be determined by said trustees: *Provided,* That no ordinance or regulation shall be of any force, which is repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States or of this Commonwealth.

SEC. 7. That the principal and professors of said college, or a majority of them for the time being, shall constitute the faculty of the college, which faculty shall have the power of enforcing the rules and regulations adopted by the trustees for the government of the students, and to grant and confirm, by the order and direction of a quorum of the board of trustees, such degrees in the liberal arts, sciences, or such branches thereof, to such students of the college, and others, who by their proficiency in learning, or other distinction, they think shall be entitled to them, as have been usually granted in other colleges or universities, or which the said trustees, or a quorum thereof, shall think right and proper, and to grant to such graduates, diplomas or certificates, under their common seal, to authenticate and perpetuate the memory of such graduation.

SEC. 8. Persons of every religious denomination shall be capable of being elected trustees, nor shall any person, either as principal, professor, tutor or pupil, be refused admittance into said college, or denied any of the privileges, immunities or advantages thereof, for, or on account of his sentiments in matters of religion.

SEC. 9. No misnomer of the said corporation shall defeat or annul any gift, grant devise or bequest, to or from said corporation: *Provided,* The intent of the parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, grant, will, other writing, whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from said corporation.

SEC. 10. In addition to the customary professorships in other colleges, there shall be in this institution a German professorship.

SEC. 11. The legislature reserves the right to revoke, alter or annul the charter hereby granted, at any time they may think proper.

NER MIDDLESWARTH
Speaker of the House of Representatives

THOMAS S. CUNNINGHAM
Speaker of the Senate

Approved—The thirty-first day of March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

JOS. RITNER

The legislature of Pennsylvania a century ago was liberal with the colleges of the state. With the granting of a charter for Marshall College, an appropriation of $10,000 for the endowment of the new institution was made by a special act.

This was later increased to $12,000. When the installments on this appropriation had been paid, the state legislature began to make annual appropriations of $1000 to Marshall College and similar institutions which continued for several years. These grants were made under the terms of the following act:

AN ACT

GRANTING AID TO MARSHALL COLLEGE

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the State Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized and required to pay to the trustees of Marshall College, in the county of Franklin, the sum of six thousand dollars and the further sums of three thousand dollars on the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, and to be applied to the support of the institution.

SEC. 2. That the trustees of Marshall College shall cause annually to be instructed gratis twenty students, if that number apply, who shall be citizens or sons of citizens of this state, in the elementary branches of an English education, in the manner best calculated to qualify them for teachers in the English language: *Provided,* That the trustees aforesaid shall signify their assent in writing to the conditions of this act, directed to the State Treasurer, on or before the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

LEWIS DEWART
Speaker of the House of Representatives

THOMAS S. CUNNINGHAM
Speaker of the Senate

Approved—The twenty-ninth day of March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

JOS. RITNER

The following letters show how the students of the new college at Mercersburg lived, and how the students of the Theological Seminary, still remaining at York, felt about the status of the two institutions:

(1)

Mr. Editor:—The accession of new students is 19 in number of whom 6 are preparing for the gospel ministry.

I must also give you some information, in regard to our mode of living. Fourteen of us rented a house and lot in which we live and board ourselves. In this way it only costs us about 75 cents a week, including boarding, washing, and house rent, and at the same time we live more pleasantly, and enjoy more happiness and good health than if we paid $1.75 cents per week, as some do.

Our *Marshall Union Hall,* as we call it, is not only a pleasant place, but it is a kind refuge to the indigent young men that are among us.

A. H.[3]

Mercersburg May 11 1836

(2)

. . . Marshall College has now passed into other hands. Its charter has wholly separated it from us; its trustees are placed by it without the reach of our ecclesiastical jurisdiction; and its professors beyond the Synod's control. All this is right enough, and I shall rejoice still in the prosperity of the institution; but I can see no reason in all this for an embarrassing connexion with it in the Theological Seminary.

S. R.[4]

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College under the act of incorporation of the legislature of the State of Pennsylvania was held at the house of John Shaffer, at Mercersburg, on Tuesday, July 12, 1836. There were present: Daniel Shaffer, William Metcalf, Hon. Alexander Thomson, Thomas H. Crawford, Esq., Henry L. Rice, Barnard Wolff, William Heyser, Frederick Smith, Henry Schnebly, Jacob Hade, George Besore, Isaac Gerhart, Theodore L. Hoffeditz, John J. Meyers, George Decker, William A. Good and David Schnebly.

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[3] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 25, 1836.

[4] *Ibid.,* May 25, 1836.

The meeting was organized by calling the Hon. Alexander Thomson to the chair, and appointing William Heyser secretary. At the adjourned meeting which was held in the Reformed Church on the following morning, additional members appeared and took their seats, namely, William McKinstry, Elliott T. Lane, Adam Hoke and Dr. P. W. Little. When the permanent organization of the board was effected, the officers chosen were the Rev. Henry L. Rice, president; Dr. P. W. Little, secretary, and Daniel Shaffer, treasurer. A special committee headed by William A. Good presented the following plan for the conduct of the college:

" 1. The studies are to be divided into the following departments: Ancient Languages, and Literature, including Latin, Greek, and Hebrew; Mathematical and Natural Sciences, including Chemistry, Mineralogy, Geology, and Botany; Intellectual and Moral Sciences; Belles Lettres and History, and the German Language and Literature.

" 2. The Annual Commencement is on the last Wednesday of September, and the Winter Session begins six weeks from that time.

" The Summer Session begins four weeks after the close of the Winter Session.

" 3. The Appointment of Professors of the College.

" 4. The Laws of the College.

" 5. The Terms of Tuition.

" 6. College Funds.

" 7. A Committee of Correspondence.

" 8. Library and Apparatus.

" 9. College Buildings.

" The Rev. F. A. Rauch, D.P., was nominated and unanimously elected President of the College, and Professor of the Hebrew, Greek, and German Languages and Literature. S. W. Budd, Jr., A.M., was nominated and unanimously elected Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and Mineralogy.

" It was further resolved that a faculty be appointed with authority to correspond with such persons as they may think competent to fill the other professorships yet remaining, and to negotiate with them the terms, upon which their services may be obtained, it being understood that the salary of the President and the Professor of Mathematics is to be first paid out of the income of tuition and that the other professors to be hereafter appointed are to look to the balance of the fund arising from tuition and any other available resources of the institution for their remuneration. It was further resolved that the whole number of professors, including the President, is four; that the salary of the President shall be $800 and that of each of the other professors, $600 per annum. It was further resolved that the system of laws and regulations for the government of Princeton College so far as applicable be adopted for the government of Marshall College. It was resolved that the tuition fees and incidental expenses of Marshall College be the following: the first, or Winter Session, tuition $18.00, room rent $3.00, steward's services $3.00, warming and use of recitation rooms $2.00. The tuition for the second or Summer Semester was to be $12.00, the room rent $2.00, steward's services $2.00, and the use of recitation rooms $2.00."

A special committee appointed to inquire into the funds of the High School of the Reformed Church reported that "the Winter Session of 1836 amounted to $547.00 and the Summer Session of 1836 to $698.90. It is, however, confidently expected that the coming session will add many to the present number of students."

In response to his election, Dr. Rauch sent the following letter of acceptance to the board:

To the Rev. H. L. Rice, President
of the Board of Trustees of
Marshall College.

Dear Sir:

I have now the happiness to feel entirely at liberty to accept the honorable appointment conferred on me by your board, and while I hope by the divine assistance to be enabled to justify the generous confidence reposed in me by your respective body, I here beg leave to express my sincere gratitude for it.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
F. A. RAUCH.

The Board of Trustees then resolved that the President of the Board should procure a seal according to the instructions of the charter, having for a device the name of the college, a likeness of Chief Justice Marshall, and the following motto: "*Lux et lex*—light and law." The fact, however, is that when the seal was procured the motto had been changed to *Lex et lux,* but was afterwards restored to its original intention in the seal of Franklin and Marshall College. It was resolved that the diplomas and certificates of Marshall College be signed by the faculty and the President and Secretary of the board, and have the seal of the college annexed. The sessions of the board closed after it had been decided that the first session of Marshall College should commence officially on Wednesday, the ninth day of November, 1836.[5]

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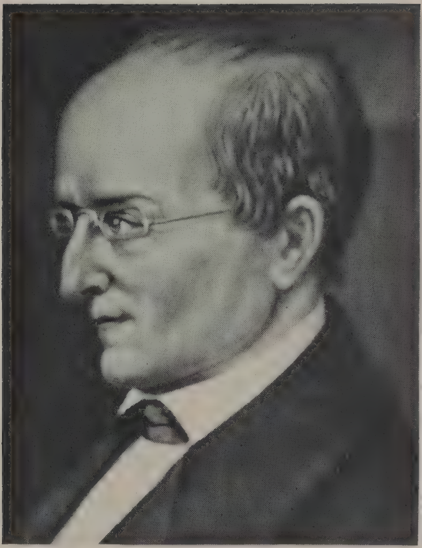
[5] Minutes of Board of Trustees of Marshall College, July 12, 1836, ff. in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.



Frederick Augustus Rauch, D.P.
First President of Marshall College, 1836–1841

CHAPTER VII

Dr. Frederick Augustus Rauch

THE close connection between the early history of Marshall College and the life and character of Dr. Frederick Augustus Rauch, its founder and first president, makes it essential for us at this point to consider the outer facts and the inner spirit of the man. The name of Dr. Rauch is as closely identified with the educational institutions at Mercersburg as is the name of Mark Hopkins with Williams, Eliphalet Nott with Union, Francis Wayland with Brown, Nathan Lord with Dartmouth, and Leonard Woods with Bowdoin. In each case the history of a college during an important period of its life is embodied in the personality of its president. In every one of these men we have an enduring record of noble sacrifice, unrelenting faithfulness, of energy and faith.

All the work of Dr. Rauch in education was done as a young man for young men. He lived less than thirty-five years. He was in America only ten years. He taught in York for three years and in Mercersburg for six. And yet he made an impress upon his students and on the thought of his time that is felt to this day.

None of his students are now living (although the writer knew some of them intimately). The idealistic features of his teaching have a remote sound in the twentieth century, and yet when studied in the perspective of a hundred years after he was at the zenith of his power and influence, the personality of Dr. Rauch shines with a lustre that throws many a more prominent educator of modern times into the shade. There is something beautiful, inspiring, pathetically heroic in the life of this Christian student, teacher, and philosopher of a former time.

Dr. Rauch was the son of a clergyman. He was born at Kirchbracht, in Hesse-Darmstadt, on July 27, 1806. He early lost his mother, of whom he frequently spoke in after-life with great tenderness. His boyhood days were spent in a tumultuous period on the European continent. The German nation had felt deeply humiliated by Napoleon's invasion and entrance into the national capital, and the youth of Germany was greatly stirred by a determination to reconstruct the national life. Voices were heard on every side calling to duty, fortitude, individual responsibility, and freedom of the inner spirit. After the battle of the nations at Leipsic and Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo the youth of Germany developed a marvelous enthusiasm for national and liberal redemption. Unfortunately the Hohenzollerns were too narrow in their outlook to grasp the opportunity, and reaction prevailed. But never were more inspiring intellectual forces let loose in Europe than were found in Germany in the second and third decades of the nineteenth century, as the names of Hegel and Fichte, Schelling, Goethe, and Alexander von Humboldt testify. It was the golden age of German idealistic and speculative thought in its relation to the problem of life. In revulsion against all systems of external adjustment, a war-weary youth sought the essentials of the inner life.

At eighteen this sensitive boy, fond of music, with a keen artistic nature and an ardent love of learning, became a student at the University of Marburg and took his diploma within three years, receiving the doctor's degree *summa cum laude* at the age of twenty-one. Then he continued his studies for a year at Giessen. It was just about the time that Liebig set up in that university a chemical laboratory on a new model. Dr. Rauch's interest lay not in science, as the title of the thesis written by him at Giessen shows: *The Identity of the Hindus, Persians, Pelasgians, Germans, and Slavonic races, shown from their Language, Religion, and Manners*. After a short period of teaching in a literary institution conducted by his uncle in Frankfort-on-the-Main, Dr. Rauch spent a year as a student in Heidelberg University.

"On leaving Heidelberg, he became extraordinary professor, as it is called, in the University of Giessen, in the twenty-fourth year of his age. In the German universities, the professors are of two kinds, ordinary and extraordinary, both alike appointed by government, but differing in rank and salary. The ordinary professors compose the entire faculty, and are entitled to its privileges. The professors extraordinary are simply teachers, and have no farther duties or privileges. They are to be considered as candidates for the other station. Their position is valued mainly as a stepping-stone to preferment. It gives a young man a certain rank and standing in the university; shows that he has enjoyed the notice of government; and authorizes him to calculate on further promotion, if he continue faithful to himself. This however does not take place as a matter of course. If a professor extraordinary allow himself to sit down, satisfied with his attainments, as a scholar, he may remain extraordinary professor all his life. In many cases, a number of years elapse, before the wished-for promotion is reached. It is of course complimentary to the character and standing of the candidate, when he is carried rapidly forward from this position to an ordinary professorship. This compliment was enjoyed by Dr. Rauch. At the end of a year spent at Giessen, under the appointment as extraordinary professor, he received an invitation to Heidelberg University, to become ordinary professor."[1] This meant that at the age of twenty-five he was called to become professor of philosophy at what was then recognized as one of the leading universities of the world.

Two influences entered deeply into the life of Dr. Rauch before his coming to America. The first was the personality and system of thought of a really great teacher, Charles Daub, distinguished philosopher and theologian in Heidelberg University, under whom Dr. Rauch had studied, and whom he always regarded as a truly great man, an exalted spirit, and one of the profoundest thinkers in Europe. Dr. Nevin says, "The year Dr. Rauch spent at Heidelberg under the light of the instructions of Charles Daub and in contact with the living power of his spirit was looked back upon with fond recollection, as the most interesting and important in the history of his own education, for Daub had the admirable faculty of drawing out with advantage the powers of generous-minded young men, and inspiring them with great and noble sentiments, of encouraging and supporting their efforts by giving them proper play, and meeting them at the right time with a warm and manly sympathy."[2]

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[1] Nevin, J. W. "Eulogy on the Life and Character of President Rauch, delivered April 6, 1841." *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 5, 1841.

Charles Daub was a philosopher and theologian who developed a system of speculative thought originally based on that of Immanuel Kant; then he transferred his mental allegiance to the standards of Fichte and Schelling, and finally became a representative of the right wing of the new philosophy of Hegel. Through his whole career, in which he followed the speculative thought of the German idealists to its utmost boundary, he remained firm in his hold on the objects of the Christian faith. He was neither pure rationalist nor romanticist, but used the logic of Hegel to interpret the dazzling system of identity of Schelling. Daub did not produce an original system of thought. He was rather an eclectic. But few men were more enthusiastic interpreters of Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel, the trio that shared in the common movement of presenting the development of the world as an unbroken evolution of thought. These men were crusaders for spiritual freedom and for the reëstablishment of scholarly thought. The German idealists felt that they were conquerors in a world of spirit, but they too frequently closed their eyes to the realm of empirical facts.

One can readily see how an eager student like Dr. Rauch could become a devoted disciple of a man like Charles Daub; for the student was privileged not only to hear his favorite lecturer in the classroom but was admitted to the innermost circle of his personal friendship. It was thus that Dr. Rauch received a deep and lasting impression from the spirit of a real scholar and true teacher.

[2] *Ibid.*

The second influence which sharply determined the future career of Dr. Rauch was the event which led to his expatriation. The political life of Germany at this time was drawn into two powerful currents. The princes were well satisfied to keep their thrones as supreme rulers in individual states; but opposition to the princes arose from an unexpected quarter. A youth movement began among the students at the universities who longed for a united country "in which a free spirit might find room to soar." In a number of the universities secret societies were organized known as "*Burschenschaften*." These societies were built on a national basis as brotherhoods of young men in opposition to the "corps," which were student societies organized on a state basis. This outburst of enthusiasm got the young patriots into trouble. Disorders followed; Metternich called a conference of the princes, who drew up the Carlsbad decrees, which fettered the intellectual life of Germany for a whole generation. Teachers were dismissed; the student societies were dissolved; press censorship was established; and the leaders of freedom were imprisoned. Nevertheless the movement flourished *sub rosa,* though constantly plagued by spies of the government.

Somehow the young professor, Dr. Rauch, gave offense to the suspicious and tyrannical government. The details are somewhat obscure. Dr. R. C. Schiedt has related the circumstances in one of his addresses: "The University of Giessen was particularly in disfavor on account of the predominance of the *Burschenschaften* element, and a man had been appointed as its chancellor who was known as the all-powerful arch-reactionary, Baron Franz Joseph von Ahrens. He had sent Pastor Weidig and other young noble patriots to prison because they still advocated what were looked upon as treasonable issues. Dr. Rauch publicly declared himself in behalf of the imprisoned men, true to the ideals of his youth, and was at once threatened with arrest. The situation had grown very serious, for imprisonment for political treason then meant life imprisonment or even death. On the advice of his friends and his father, he fled to America."[3] A tradition is repeated by several men who knew Dr. Rauch intimately to the effect that he had time only for a hurried visit to his father between the hours of eleven and one at night, at which time he bade him a sorrowful adieu and turned his face toward the broad Atlantic as an emigrant bound for a new trial of the world on its western shores.[4] The original passport of Dr. Rauch, which is before the writer, seems to show that his departure from Europe could not have been as hurried as has been imagined. The date on the document as issued by Ludwig II, Grand Duke of Hesse, is July 27, 1831. On the second page is an inscription by the United States Consulate and a seal of the Port of Bremen, stating that "the bearer of the within passport is going to embark on board the ship Juno of Bremen, Henry Sengstuck, Master, bound for New York. Signed, Bremen 30 September 1831," by the United States Consul for the Port of Bremen. According to the passport Frederick Rauch, Doctor Philosophiae, was twenty-five years of age, had brown hair, high forehead, brown eyes, brown eyebrows, sharp nose, oval chin, and a healthy color. The document is signed by Dr. F. A. Rauch, residing *"aus Hitzkirchen."*[5]

Shortly after his arrival in America Dr. Rauch went to Easton, Pennsylvania, where through letters of introduction he became acquainted with the minister of the Reformed Church, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Pomp. For a brief period he supported himself by giving lessons in music. He had been chosen as professor of German in Lafayette College, but it is altogether likely that he never taught in the college, because the trustees had failed to provide for his compensation and he was under the necessity of resigning. The following letters from Easton show that he was held in the highest regard by the citizens and the officials of Lafayette College:

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[3] Schiedt, R. C. "An Address Delivered . . . at the Unveiling of Dr. Rauch's Portrait at Mercersburg Academy." *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* July, 1911.

[4] See Dr. Nevin's eulogy of Rauch, *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 5, 1841, and Dr. E. V. Gerhart's article in the *Reformed Church Review,* April, 1903.

[5] Passport in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

(1)

> [Extract of a letter addressed to the editor of the *Presbyterian,* Philadelphia, in which magazine it was published, July 18, 1832.]

[The writer is discussing Lafayette College.] The president, Rev. Mr. Junkin, is well known, and he will be assisted by professors of eminence in the several departments. The rev'd Dr. Rauch, lately chosen professor of the German language, is one of the first classical scholars of his age in this country, and to his critical acquaintance with the classics, he has added a knowledge of the Sanskrit, which is the foundation of several of the languages of the East. So that I look forward with pleasure to the period, not far distant, when Lafayette college will furnish aid to our young missionaries, not to be had in any of our older institutions.

Yours truly,

S.

(2)

Easton, Pa. June 19, 1832.

The Rev. Dr. Rauch, late Professor in the University of Heidelberg, having resided for some time past in this place for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the English language—and being desirous of obtaining a professorship in some of the literary institutions of this country, the undersigned take great pleasure in recommending him both as a gentleman and scholar.

In addition to a personal knowledge of Dr. Rauch, we are warranted in recommending him to the patrons of science, from the fact that he was successively chosen Professor of Moral Philosophy in the universities of Giessen and Heidelberg, where he received his education.

He is also the author of two Latin works, one, "De Sophoclis Electra," and the other, "De resurrectione mortuorum," which were published by the recommendation of three of the German universities. In the German language he published a work on the original identity of the Hindoo, Persian, Pelasgic, German and Sclavonic languages; and in addition to other writings on Philosophy and Theology, he is the author of a work on the ancient Persian and Sanscrit literature.

From a personal and testimonial knowledge therefore of Dr. Rauch, we most unhesitatingly recommend him as a gentleman of high moral character, and of various profound literary attainments both in philosophy and languages.

J. GRAY, *Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in the borough of Easton, Pa.*
GEO. JUNKIN, *Principal of Lafayette College.*
THOMAS POMP, *Pastor of the G. Reformed Congregation of Easton, Pa.*
JACOB WAGENER, *Easton.*
J. C. BECKER, *Pastor of the G. Reformed Congregation in Allen Township, Northampton co. Pa.*

(3)

Easton, Pa. July 23, 1832.

Honored Sir,

Your letter of this date has been duly received. The Trustees of LaFayette College regret, on account of their Institution, that a sense of duty should have called you away from the college. But whilst that regret is felt, they cannot but appreciate the conscientious motives that call you from the service of the Institution here, to that of another where you believe the sphere of your usefulness will be enlarged.

Go where you will, you will carry with you the warmest aspirations of the friends, whom your character, attainments and conduct have secured for you here, for your success and usefulness. To the high sense of respect, to which your acquirements as a scholar entitled you, your uniformly correct and gentlemanly deportment whilst with us has added the highest degree of personal esteem and friendship of all, who have had the pleasure of making your acquaintance, toward you as a man.

I am, with great respect,
Very truly yours,

J. M. PORTER, *President, of the Board of Trustees of La-Fayette College.*

Dr. Fred. Aug. Rauch.[6]

At the meeting of the Synod of Frederick, Maryland, from September 16 to 21, 1832, the committee on education presented a number of letters of recommendation, testifying to the character and ability of Dr. Rauch. The committee reported that he was recommended to the Synod by the East Pennsylvania Classis as a highly esteemed gentleman and brother who had lived among them for a year. Then the various letters and documents already referred to (see p. 21) were laid before Synod, and the committee, consisting of Dr. D. Zacharias, R. Goschen, Jacob Mayer, and J. W. Dechant, recommended that Dr. Rauch be elected as professor and be especially entrusted with the work of the classical department of the Theological Seminary, and as far as possible to help Dr. Mayer in his labors with all the students. The inauguration of Dr. Rauch as principal of the Classical School and Professor of Biblical Literature in the Theological Seminary took place in the Reformed Church in York on the evening of Thursday, October 18, 1832. After stating what he considered the principal object of all education and expressing the fear that his eagerness to attempt something noble was greater than his abilities to accomplish it, he added, "I consider myself not only in my whole fortune but in every undertaking, as dependent on that Being who holds the great ocean in the hollow of His hand, and moves the mariner's vessel in his course, though unobserved by him.

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[6] All three letters are printed in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* December, 1832.

God has imposed these new duties upon me. With this conviction will I enter upon my office, with this will I exercise it, and with this will I hereafter leave it, full of reliance on Him who gives success to every sincere effort."[7]

Before long the whole responsibility of the Classical School was on the shoulders of Dr. Rauch. All the labor of instruction rested upon one individual who was, moreover, burdened with many other duties. The Professor of Sacred Literature in the Seminary occupied most of his time with the Classical School. It is true that within a year or more Mr. Samuel W. Budd, Jr., came to Dr. Rauch's assistance in the Classical Institution.

The outline of the courses, already given (p. 25), shows clearly that Dr. Rauch had in mind a plan of education that was more nearly akin to the idea of a university than to that of a classical school. He announced instruction in Sanskrit would be given by himself if a class could be obtained. Tuition in French was an item of extra charge, as was also instruction in Sanskrit. He issued a plan of instruction in which he said, "All the branches of education which are adapted to such an institution as we have are proposed to be taught, upon a different plan from that usually pursued in this country. This plan will subject the instructors to much additional labor, but we think it decidedly the best for the improvement of those who are taught."[8]

He began his literary work in America while he was still in York. He commenced the editing of a library of German literature; volume one, number one contained about one-third of Goethe's *Travels in Italy,* published by Samuel Wagner in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1834. In the preliminary announcement of this pamphlet Dr. Rauch stated, "The reader who acquires a taste for such an author as Goethe will *think* as well as *read,* and he will not rise from his reading without having his understanding informed, and his judgment strengthened, while his imagination is entertained and his taste improved."[9]

[7] *Ibid.,* January, 1833.

[8] *Ibid.,* December, 1832.

[9] *Ibid.,* August, 1834.

While in York Dr. Rauch was married to Phoebe Moore, the daughter of Mr. Laomi Moore, of Morristown, New Jersey. Those who knew her best declared that she was a charming woman, "worthy in all respects to be the wife of such a man." After Dr. Rauch's death she joined her sister, Mrs. Daniel Young, in the establishment of a school for girls in Mercersburg, and later married Dr. John P. Hiester, of Reading, Pennsylvania. She died at the age of forty.

Dr. Rauch's early success in conducting the Classical School at York has been noted. It was immediately found necessary to appoint an assistant professor to aid him in the work of the school. A suitable house had to be secured for the increasing number of students. The courses in which students were examined in the presence of the board at the end of the first winter sessions of the school were these:

I. By Mr. Agnew,
    1st Class. English Grammar.
    2d Class. Horace.
    3d Class. History of the United States.
    4th Class. Graeca Minora.
    5th Class. Arithmetic.
    6th Class. Geography.
    7th Class. Virgil.
II. By Dr. Rauch,
    1st Class. German Grammar.
    2d Class. Homer.
    3d Class. Caesar.
    4th Class. Natural History.
    5th Class. Greek Grammar.
III. By Professor Mayer,
    1st Class. Hermeneutic.
    2d Class. Exegetic.
    3d Class. Theology.

The board found itself compelled to engage the services of two additional teachers for the summer session of 1833: the Rev. Mr. Dober and Mr. Blech, to teach mathematics and the French language.

The greatest help, however, to Dr. Rauch came from Samuel W. Budd, Jr., who became his assistant in 1834, and remained his faithful colleague and companion, as well as secretary of the faculty, through the entire trying period of the institution's later history in York and earlier struggles at Mercersburg. As a teacher in mathematics, Professor Budd was all that the interests of the institution required; he was a man who could be leaned upon and trusted by the head of the school; he was discreet, and helped Dr. Rauch a great deal in situations that required difficult and delicate handling. By birth he was a Quaker, uncommonly reserved and cautious, governed by reflection rather than by feeling. It is difficult to realize that these two young professors, who actually took the school to Mercersburg, did not live to be thirty-five years of age. Both of them labored very hard at Mercersburg in the interest of the new institution. But the work of Dr. Rauch was more varied though no more intense than that of Professor Budd.

In addition to his administrative tasks as President of Marshall College and his classroom lectures, Dr. Rauch, with his profound scholarship and extensive erudition, had great ambitions for literary work and for the development of the religious life of his students and of the community. He opened a regular Sunday service. He prepared his sermons and addresses with great care. The manuscripts of a number of these discourses, as well as of his classroom lectures, are still in existence.[10] In his public discourses are to be found clearness of thought, tenderness of feeling, and a firm belief in the divine personality of Jesus Christ. He was indeed a Christian philosopher.

In the printed collection of a group of Dr. Rauch's discourses edited by Dr. E. V. Gerhart, who had been a pupil of Dr. Rauch's for eight years, can be found the very life-spirit of the brilliant first president of Marshall College. The volume is known as *The Inner Life of the Christian,* and contains seventeen public addresses and sermons. They are filled with a spirit of idealism, personal humility, religious fervor almost akin to mysticism, and yet they are scholarly and logical in the highest degree.

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[10] In the archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church in the United States, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

That Dr. Rauch's love of music remained with him through his whole life is seen in the beautiful address he delivered on "The Inner Life: a Song of Praise" at the dedication of the organ in the Reformed Church at Frederick, Maryland, on August 25, 1839. There is a plaintive Platonic note, a sort of homesickness for the invisible world of the spirit, to be found in most of these discourses. He says:

"It is the Lord that speaks to us through a book, that edifies us through a friend, that gives us advice through the word of a stranger, that attracts our attention and influences the current of our thoughts through the innocence of a child, whose simplicity puts our wisdom to confusion, whose cheerfulness beguiles us of our melancholy, and whose peace and tranquillity unlock to us the paradise of those that believe and do not doubt. . . . Whithersoever we go, there the Lord is, and we cannot be without Him. We see Him in the constitution of our government, in the spirit of our laws, in the morals of society, in the institutions of learning, in all the views, principles, and sacred undertakings of our age. As we are surrounded by the air of heaven, so are believers surrounded on all sides visibly and invisibly by the Spirit of the Lord. No journey is necessary to be with Him, no money to be admitted into His presence, no splendid dress to walk by His side . . . ; whatever speaks to us in nature—sunset and sunrise, spring by its new creations, summer by its sheaves, autumn by its ripened fruits, and winter by its tranquillity and repose—all tell us, that the Lord is near us. What is all the knowledge of the earth, all the wisdom of reason, compared with the conviction, that the Lord is with us?"[11]

Dr. Rauch's most permanent and pretentious published work was his *Psychology; or, a View of the Human Soul, including Anthropology, being the Substance of a Course of Lectures delivered to the Junior Class, Marshall College,* printed by M. W. Dodd, New York, in the spring of 1840. It was a book that could not fail to attract attention because of the universal interest in the subject and the unique method of approach. In the preface Dr. Rauch said, "The present work is, as far as the author knows, the first attempt to unite German and American mental philosophy." The work received many favorable notices. Dr. Brownson of Boston pronounced it "a work of genius." It was introduced as a textbook into the University of Vermont, Dartmouth College, and other institutions. The *Princeton Review* pronounced it an entirely original work, and contrasted it favorably with Carlyle's and Emerson's efforts to bring German thought into English form by indirection. The style of the book attracted attention largely because so many of its allusions and illustrations were drawn from ancient poetry, sculpture, painting, and architecture. As someone put it, "He hangs garlands on the cold marble of the Porch and the Lyceum." The book beyond any question at once placed Dr. Rauch among the finest scholars of his time in America. In the course of a few months the first edition was exhausted and preparations were made for a second, which appeared after his death. The *Psychology* was only the stepping-stone to the *magnum opus* which he had planned, namely, a moral philosophy in which was to be embodied his whole system of thought.

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[11] Rauch, Frederick A. *The Inner Life of the Christian*. Edited by E. V. Gerhart. Philadelphia, 1856, pp. 43–45.

He was greatly pleased at the appearance of his *Psychology* in print, and felt that at last he had prospects of a literary career. He immediately set to work to edit his *Treatise on Ethics,* which was to be followed by a work on aesthetics. He wrote to his friend and colleague, Dr. J. W. Nevin, in the autumn of 1840: "The most agreeable hope animates me, meanwhile, that the goodness of the Lord will again restore me to health, and give me new strength, to labor with you, my dear friend, for a great and noble object. To this I wish to consecrate what remains of my life, that I may go hence as a true servant of the Lord. My *Christian Ethics* have occupied me very pleasantly on my whole journey. The plan of the work now lies before me, clear and distinct, as a whole with all its joints and limbs, like a transparent crystal. All the transitions show themselves plainly; so that if I were a painter, to draw the whole out like a picture, it would appear to all, not as a composition, but as a living organism, which being animated with one idea, throws off everything that does not belong to it by its own life. The thought that it has fallen to me as my lot, by divine direction, as it would seem, to present the English literature with some of the great views and ideas of the noble German spirit, raises me and imparts to my being a value not previously known."[12]

When it was suggested to Dr. Rauch, shortly before his last fatal illness, that it might be better for him to defer his labors in preparing the *Christian Ethics* for the press, he said, "Why, I might die before it is done!" Had he lived a few years longer and finished his work in ethics and aesthetics, Dr. Nevin thought he might have lifted the village of Mercersburg and the college into the view of the whole world.

Dr. Rauch was not only an original, forceful thinker, but he had the ideals of a great educator. He took pride in the institution over which he was called to preside. In a letter to Dr. W. Patton he called Marshall College "one of the brightest ornaments of our country." He said, "The aim of the institution is to furnish a liberal education, which shall prepare the student for any vocation in life. The means by which it intends to effect this are the study of ancient and modern Languages, Mathematics, Moral, Intellectual, and Natural Sciences, History and Literature.

"The design of our institution is education for future usefulness in life. It must call into action all the faculties of the mind and make scholars conscious of their power. The student must learn to go through what is difficult as well as what is easy. At the same time the student must be roused to independent action. It will be necessary that he learn to think for himself, to judge, to make what he has learned his own, by comprehending and applying it. As to discipline, we do not wish to extort good behavior by rules, but rather by spreading moral and religious principles, induce the student to act from love and regard for decency and morality as a free man ought to act."[13]

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[12] Quoted in Dr. J. W. Nevin's eulogy, *Reformed Church Messenger*, May 5, 1841.

In another letter to Dr. Patton, he again expresses pride in the college and says that he feels that there is scarcely a new institution in the union more deserving of the warmest interest of the public than Marshall College. "With the prosperity or decline of Marshall College our church must rise or fall. Above forty of our students have the gospel ministry in view. A committee of finance has resolved to raise $60,000. As soon as the trustees have raised a sufficient sum, they intend to rear another larger edifice."[14]

Marshall College was indeed the apple of his eye. His greatest ambition was to build it up, to make it "a blessing of God, an ornament to the State, and the glory of the Church."

The financial affairs of the institution Dr. Rauch committed largely to other hands. His tastes and inclinations were not fitted to this task. It was well for him that he lived in an age when the finances of an educational institution were not thought to be part of the duty of the president of a college. It is probable however, that this delegation of authority was responsible for many of the hardships in the early history of the institution, in spite of its high scholarly ideals.

According to the testimony of his pupils and colleagues Dr. Rauch was an inspiring teacher of boys. One of his most enthusiastic and successful students, Dr. Gerhart, who afterwards became the first president of Franklin and Marshall College, said, "The classroom was Dr. Rauch's kingdom, where he exerted his moulding influence over boys in the unfolding of their minds. The rostrum was his throne. He taught partly by the use of textbook; but parallel with questions on the text of the book ran comment, illustration, criticism, supplementation. These informal lectures excited thought, provoked inquiries, and led to profitable discussion."[15]

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[13] Dr. Rauch's letter, dated December 26, 1836, appeared in the *New York Observer* and was reprinted in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* January 25, 1837.

[14] *Reformed Church Messenger,* February 15, 1837. The letter is dated January 2, 1837.

[15] Gerhart, E. V. "The First President of Marshall College." *Reformed Church Review,* April, 1903.

Another of his students, Dr. Theodore Appel, describes a typical classroom scene: Dr. Rauch was teaching the sophomore class, consisting of nine students, using Whateley's *Logic* as a textbook. After a few recitations out of the textbook and a few lectures on Aristotle, the father of logic, the professor proposed to the class that in place of those recitations, he deliver to them a course of lectures on aethetics. Of course the class assented, and before they realized what had happened they were listening to a discourse on the philosophy of the fine arts. A new world was opened to them, as the lecturer illustrated his ideas from the spheres of music, painting, sculpture, poetry, and architecture. "After describing in detail the different kinds of poetry, Dr. Rauch went into an analysis of the great poems of different ages and countries, such as the Cid of Spain, the Mahabarata of India, the Nibelungenlied of Germany, Ossian's great poem, the Edda of Iceland, and others more generally known."[16]

Perhaps the most convincing tribute to Dr. Rauch's teaching ability is the statement of Dr. John W. Nevin, who himself was a teacher of rare quality: "Dr. Rauch was admirably qualified as an instructor of young men. His resources for the communication of knowledge were unusually extensive, and his powers were altogether happily balanced and adjusted. His imagination especially was rich, and well stored with materials gathered from the universe of nature and art, under its ancient as well as its more modern forms. Then he carried his whole soul into his work. The business of teaching with him was anything but mechanical in form. His nature was ardent, generous, enthusiastic; towards the young especially, standing to him in the relation of pupils, it uttered itself with a most affectionate earnestness and vivacity. His whole intercourse with his students, besides, was adapted to win their confidence and engage their love. There was no magisterial stiffness in his manner; but on the contrary the greatest freedom and urbanity. The student was made to feel that his preceptor was his friend, and could scarcely fail to reciprocate the kindly feelings which seemed to form the element of this relation. And well his students might love him, for he looked upon them as his own family." [17]

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[16] Appel. *Recollections of College Life*, p. 248.

The following hitherto unpublished letters by Dr. Rauch will throw considerable light on the traits of this unusual man:

(1)

[Written before Dr. Rauch accepted the appointment to the York High School]

To Peter Shnyder

Dear Mr. Shnyder:

These lines are written for no other purpose, than to convey to you a friendly greeting and to assure you, that I remember you with the greatest affection.

Every thing has gone very nicely with me up to this time, and I only wish, that I may get something to do for the honor of God. That is now my only wish.

May the Lord grant you health, and keep you for a long time to serve the church which he has founded for Himself on earth.

With high regard and true affection,

Yours

RAUCH.[18]

(2)

To Rev. James M. Reiley

Dear Friend:

I have received your letter containing the prices of the books sent by you; and have sold already a great number of them. I would like you to send me 8 copies of Jacob's Latin Reader, if convenient.

We cannot get any good sealing wax here and I would therefore ask you to send for me and the students who have inquired for some, a few pieces of "fyn Segellak wet brand" or any that is equally good.

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[17] Dr. Nevin's eulogy of Dr. Rauch, *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 5, 1841.

[18] From the German of the original letter, Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

I am not able to say more at present, being exceedingly much occupied. I shall however write soon again.

Our institution is doing well so far as the citizens are determined to raise more money, than they have subscribed, for the purpose of erecting fine buildings.

Give my best wishes to your wife and Mrs. Volgesong and to all, that inquire after me.

Yours in the Lord,

F. A. RAUCH.[19]

(3)

Dear Sir

Mrs. Young desires me to invite you in her name to tea this evening. Please accept of the invitation. I shall be happy to meet you at her house.

Yours

F. A. RAUCH.[20]

(4)

[To the Reverend A. H. Kremer, Shippensburg, Pa.]

[June 8, 1840]

My very dear Sir

I have this day handed to your Father Ten copies of my Psychology, all of which are intended for you. This is the number, which you had the goodness to subscribe for and being convinced of the interest, you take in the work, I send them with this favorable opportunity.—And now, my dear friend, a word in confidence. This edition of the work costs me fully $1600.00, one half of which I had to pay in advance in order to command the copies, subscribed for. To make this payment, I had to borrow money; among the rest I borrowed two hundred Dollars from Mr. Mart. Rickenbaugh of Hagerstown, which will be shortly due. Might I ask the favor of you, in consideration of my present embarrassments, to sell the copies, sent you, as soon as your convenience will permit? Many of the Students, who have collected a considerable number of subscribers, cannot at present dispose of the copies subscribed for, but must wait until fall;—this of course keeps me out of money, on which I calculated with much certainty. I assure you that you will confer a great favor upon me, by selling the ten copies, sent you, very soon. Your Father was not certain, whether he should have an opportunity before 8 or 10 days of handing you the books, but I hope, they will be much sooner in your possession.

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[19] The original letter (in English) is in the "Memorial Portfolio of Marshall College and Franklin and Marshall College" in the Marshall College MS. collection, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

[20] Original in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

I am very much pleased with Dr. N[evin]. He is a *noble* and *learned* man. The students are likewise much satisfied.

My compliments to your kind lady. Pay us soon another visit. I think often of you and always with much love and regard. May the Lord be with you and bless whatever you undertake to his honor.

Your friend and brother in Christ

F. A. RAUCH[21]

(5)

Mr. E. V. Gerhart is a graduate of Marshall College and has been a Student in the Institutions of the German Reformed Church for more than six years. During this long connection with us his *gentlemanly and christian* deportment, his application and progress in science, and his generous and amiable character was such as to induce the Faculty to appoint him a Tutor in the Preparatory School of Marshall College. The warm affections of his Instructors will follow him through life with the most ardent wishes for his prosperity and usefulness.

Marshall College September 25th, 1839

F. A. RAUCH[22]
Pres. of Marshall College

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[21] Original in the Archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church in the United States, Lancaster, Pa.

[22] *Ibid.*

(6)

Revd. B. C. Wolf
Easton, Pa.

Dear Brother:

Your son George reminded me this morning of the debt I owe you and I am now ready to pay it. I ought to have written you sooner, but my labors are indeed great and many and I cannot always do as I desire. I had intended dropping you a line, when our friend, Mr. B. Wolf of Chambersburg was here, but was prevented from doing so. I now feel, as I did then, somewhat indignant at the cause, that brought him here; George has been rather careless during this winter, but has not done any thing, that could *in the least* produce fearful apprehensions with regard to his moral character. I have watched him closely (of course in my own way without giving any offence to him) and I am perfectly convinced, that if he had been left to himself by those, that ought not to have any superintendence over him, nor assume any authority in their relation to him, and that if the means to *bring about a revival,* had been more prudently selected and more cautiously applied to the individual students,—he would have been as during other sessions. And here you will pardon me for saying that I consider nothing *more dangerous and ruinous* to the formation of the character of a young gentleman, than to have his actions watched by another, that perhaps is a few years older but perhaps not farther advanced in service and literary attainments and perhaps inferior in talent and judgment. Your son is in that age, in which he begins to claim all the deference due to a young gentleman; he is *smart* and interesting to all his fellow students, he is of a lively disposition and much inclined—like every youth of his stamp would be—to ascertain every where his rights; this is a failing, to be honored and though it is to be guarded too, this must be done in a gentle manner. I can understand the feelings and views of your son entirely; the more he perceived some of the students ready to act as his moral or intellectual guardian, the more he felt inclined, to assume airs, which they would not like or do things before them, which they would not approve and all this only to show them his entire indifference to their judgement. This is natural and appears so to every one, that has much to do with youth except to parents, for they continue to consider their sons and daughters to be children, as they were when they sent them from home while they meanwhile are undergoing one of the greatest changes of life, that of passing over from a state in which all their rights were to be protected by grown persons to that, in which they commence to assume this protection themselves, at least to some extent.—Whoever gave you that fearful information, must either have discovered that George was a match for him and not tame enough to be advised and directed exactly by him, or he must know nothing of human nature at all and expect persons of different ages and tempers to act all alike and must consider the most harmless pleasures, because they are *pleasures,* to be most awful crimes. To place a person on the brink of ruin will say something or nothing at all. If it is said with truth, it ought to be well established; if it is a mere phrase, a strong emphasis of momentary feeling or fear, it says *nothing at all* and ought not to be noticed.—Your son is in my opinion an orderly, morally good and highly promising young gentleman, in whom I feel much interested and whose conduct is far from producing unpleasant apprehensions in me. The *only* objection I have to him in the latter respect, is his inclination to be somewhat wild, though I have not noticed any thing of the kind *lately;*—yet this is properly speaking no objection; we ought not to object to his naturally lively disposition, to his life and cheerfulness, to his sprightliness and constantly active mind, for, to object to all this would be no better than to desire him to be phlegmatic and inactive and less gifted; if then we will permit his nature to be as God gave it to him, we must expect a corresponding utterance or else be as the poet says like those, that command the ocean to produce no more waves. I have spoken a word or two more than I thought of today, when I began; but you will easily perceive, that your informant no doubt from conscientious considerations, views your son's conduct in a totally different light from what I do and therefore I supported my views by my past experiences.

I shall with great pleasure attend to paying the different Bills of your son. As far as I know, he has *none* except those for boarding, washing, etc. This Bill for boarding will amount to 1.75 p.w.; in this sum washing is included, for Mr. Foltz is bound by contract to give board and washing at 1.75, and though he has not attended to the latter, it was understood between him and myself, that the amount for washing should be taken off the amount of boarding. Room Rent is 3.50, fuel $8.00. I do not need to make out the Bill myself, as you can do this as well as myself. You know, how many weeks your son has been here this winter and if you allow 1.75 p.w. for board, including washing, your calculation must be correct.

I expect to see Jacob Astor this spring; I do not hope however to receive a donation from him. Yet I have nevertheless a wish to pay him another visit, for he will no doubt by his will give some legacies to benevolent purposes, and keeping our Institution and its claims upon his mind, may make him think of us favorably when he closes his will finally. I wish, I could meet you again in New York, or in Philadelphia. In the latter city I may likely spend a few days to become acquainted with Mr. Berg's congregation.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I beg only yet to be remembered to your lady and Mr. Sam. Wagner. I requested Prof. Smith to send him and yourself a copy of his speech and I presume he did so.

Very respectfully
Yours
F. A. RAUCH[23]

The labors of Dr. Rauch at Mercersburg in the building of Marshall College; in his teaching in the Theological Seminary as a colleague of Dr. Lewis Mayer; in his writing of books and lectures and occasional addresses proved to be too much for the rather frail frame of this young, nervously energetic scholar. By 1840 his health was in a precarious state; but he was determined, against the advice of his friends, to go ahead with his literary efforts and with his professional duties. One of his students says, "When he could no longer come over and hear us recite in his lecture-room, he called us to his study, where he taught us as he reclined on his cot-bed." He resolutely continued to hold his lectures day by day, and diligently prepared for the press the second edition of his *Psychology,* until, in February, 1841, he suffered an attack of catarrhal fever, a disorder which ultimately lodged itself in his chest. During his last illness his students watched with him and to their consternation found him dead in the early dawn of March 2, 1841. He was aged thirty-four years, seven months, and six days.

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[23] Original in the archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church in the United States, Lancaster, Pa.

Two days later, while William Henry Harrison was being inaugurated president of the United States in the City of Washington, a small body of students and a handful of academic colleagues carried the body of their beloved President of Marshall College to a little grove on the college grounds.

At the close of the college term, on April 6, the Rev. Dr. Nevin, at the request of the Board of Trustees of the college, delivered in Mercersburg a really remarkable eulogy on the character of President Rauch, in which he said, "Already the name of Dr. Rauch had caused the name of Mercersburg to be repeated with interest, where hitherto it had not been heard. Had he lived a few years longer, Mercersburg would have soon become classic ground, familiar to the lips, and sacred to the heart, of the American scholar. As it is, the memory of the man deserves to be regarded still as an ornament to the place."[24]

Fourteen years afterwards, when Marshall College had been removed to Lancaster, the alumni association of Marshall and of Franklin and Marshall Colleges was informed that the remains of Dr. Rauch still reposed in the college grove at Mercersburg, that the college property had passed into the hands of a private individual, and that there was danger that the grave would be in a measure unprotected. A committee to whom was referred the proposition for the removal of the remains of Dr. Rauch from Mercersburg to Lancaster made the following report on July 25, 1855:

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[24] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 5, 1841.

"It seems proper that the remains of the first and honored president of our collegiate institution should repose under the shadow of the college itself and be under its immediate guardianship. The presence of his tomb and a suitable monument over it, would be an abiding memento of his virtues and excellencies, and render the new college ground [in Lancaster] more precious in the eyes of the older alumni and friends of the institution. We therefore recommend that application be made to the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College for a suitable piece of ground to be occupied for the purpose above named and for their coöperation in the matter.

"And that a committee of five be appointed to collect means for the proposed removal, and the erection of a suitable monument. That this committee be authorized to superintend the removal and erection of a monument."[25]

The Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College, at its meeting in July, 1856, instructed the executive committee to purchase a lot of ground in the Lancaster Cemetery and have the remains of Dr. Rauch removed and interred there, according to the wishes of the alumni association. Eighteen years after his death the body of Dr. Rauch was brought to Lancaster for reinterment. The leading citizens of Lancaster, including judges of the courts and men ranking high in the professional world, carried it up the aisle of the First Reformed Church on Tuesday morning, March 8, 1859. "Whilst the sacred remains, borne by Hon. A. L. Hayes, Emanuel C. Reigart, Esq., Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg, Prof. William M. Nevin, Hon. B. Champneys, Dr. J. L. Atlee, Hon. H. D. Long, and the Rev. Henry Harbaugh (several of whom had been personal acquaintances of Dr. Rauch), were carried along the aisle and placed before the altar, . . . the professors, students, citizens of Lancaster stood in solemn silence."[26] After a sermon by Dr. John W. Nevin in which he expressed the wish, on behalf of the institution at Lancaster, that it might never cease to be worthy of the name and ever be true to the spirit of its first president, Frederick Augustus Rauch, the whole audience formed a procession composed of the clergy and many citizens, members of the Board of Trustees and the faculty and students of the college that moved toward the northeastern part of the town, where the body was committed to a new tomb.

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[25] *Ibid.*, August 22, 1855.

Twelve years after this occasion another event took place in Lancaster—the unveiling of the Rauch monument on the Franklin and Marshall College campus. It occupied a prominent place there until the erection of the DePeyster Library, when it was transferred to the spot where Dr. Rauch lies buried in the Lancaster Cemetery. The following description which appeared in the York *Gazette* possesses considerable interest:

THE RAUCH MONUMENT

> The Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in connection with the alumni of Marshall College, formerly of Mercersburg, and of Franklin and Marshall College, of Lancaster city, are having a monument executed by our townsman, Davoust Kern, to be placed in the campus of the last named college, in memory of the late Dr. Frederick A. Rauch. Many of our older citizens will remember this reverend gentleman and scholar, as having been once a resident of this place, and at that time occupied the post of principal of the High School of the Reformed Church. This High School, by an act of the Legislature, on its removal to Mercersburg, Franklin County, was converted into a College, bearing the name of *Marshall*. . . .
>
> Some time [after his death], it was thought proper to remove the remains of the first President, to the same locality [*e.g.*, Lancaster] where they now repose. His first monument remains as a cenotaph, at Mercersburg, whilst the larger and

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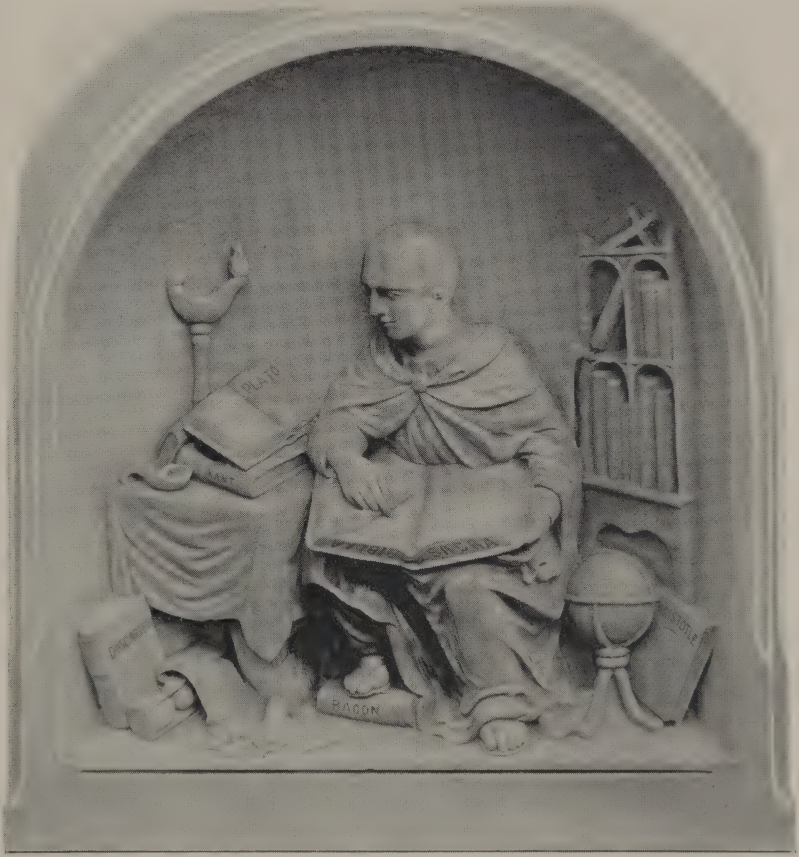
[26] Dr. E. V. Gerhart, in his introductory note to the eulogy on "The Life and Character of Frederick Augustus Rauch" which Dr. John W. Nevin delivered on this occasion. Printed at Chambersburg, 1859.


PLATO
KANT
SACRA
BACON

"A Christian Philosopher"
The Study of Frederick Augustus Rauch, portrayed in a medallion on his monument at Lancaster, Pa.

more finished piece of workmanship, is to be placed to his memory in the grounds of the united college, at Lancaster, where, we are informed, it will be unveiled with appropriate ceremonies, on the 28th of this month, in connection with the Commencement exercises of the college.

It will be remembered, that Mr. Kern, who possesses rare talents as an artist and workman in marble, executed for some of the same parties, a beautiful and significant monument, last year, in memory of the late Dr. Harbaugh, which was lately placed over his remains at Mercersburg. That monument was designed to perpetuate, in a symbolic way, the traits of character prominent in that remarkable man, as an "*Instructor of the young in religion and cultus.*" This monument in like manner is designed to be significant of the man to whose memory it is reared, and to express what he was in an eminent degree, a "*Christian Philosopher.*"

The monument when erected, will be in the form of an octagonal shaft standing on a die, resting on a granite base, and surmounted by a trifoliate cross, on which in a raised form, are the significant letters, I. H. S., signifying, "Jesus, the Saviour of men;" and when placed on the sodded mound on which the base is to rest, it will be 15 feet high. Its cap and moulding, its scotia and lines of proportion are so accurate and well-proportioned to the rest of the monument, that as a whole it presents the most pleasing appearance to the eye, and reflects great credit upon the artist.

The most pleasing, artistic, and we may add instructive part of this monument, is the die, which is a cube two feet in diameter, containing the significant features of the memorial, designed to perpetuate the memory of this Christian *philosopher,* cut in full relief. On the front, in a niche five inches deep, is presented a study, in the centre of which, beside a table, is seated the philosopher in an attitude of meditation, pen in hand, with a large folio resting on his lap, bearing the title of *Biblia Sacra.* The figure and attitude seem to interpret the whole scene presented in this study. He is evidently comparing philosophy with revelation, and weighing the deduction of reason in the light of revealed truth. For on the table beside him, and right and left at the feet of the table, and against the walls, stand or recline different large folio volumes, bearing the titles of Plato, Aristotle, Kant, Hegel, Bacon, and Descartes, as the representatives of the leading systems of Philosophy. On the floor of the study lies an hour-glass on its side, and a piece of manuscript, as if it had fallen from the table, while on the table itself, stands an antique lamp, designed to illume the midnight-hour of the study. By this part of the scene, the artist would express the absorbent studies of this student, who makes no account of time, and amid his absorbing thoughts, the manuscript to which he would affix them, has itself dropped beside forgotten for the time. The effect of this part of the illustration is very fine. Behind the figure, and at the base of a bookstand containing several folio volumes, bearing the titles of the most eminent poets of past history—Homer, Virgil, Dante, Shakespeare, and Goethe—stands a celestial globe, whilst on the floor of the study lies carelessly a bunch of flowers. This part of the scene is, doubtless to remind us of the fact, that this Christian *Philosopher* was also a *Poet,* a teacher of *Aesthetics,* the science of the beautiful; and that by him, who drank wisdom from Siloa's Brook, which flowed fast by the oracles of God, and had faith in revelation, the abstruse and profound speculations of philosophy, were dressed in language and figures of speech, which claimed to rank high in that among the finest of the sacred arts—poetry. On the opposite side, or rear of the die, is cut in a similar niche, in bas-relief, a terrestrial globe, which is also a symbol of philosophy. The face of the globe presents the whole western hemisphere, with North America as the most prominent, the full outlines of the Atlantic Ocean, with parts of Europe and Africa. This is to signify, not simply that he whose memory it perpetuates, left Germany, of the Eastern Continent and made this the scene of his labors, but that this became his fatherland. Here he sought to aid other Christian scholars in demonstrating that true philosophy and Christianity have a common origin, and that he who would be a true philosopher, should be a Christian, too—and that here he lived, died, and is buried. And, whilst living, having made the world his study, he is now waiting for that new heaven and a new earth, in which dwelleth righteousness.

We are told by those who have the matter in charge, that this monument is to be placed in the campus, that the students going daily into the college and seminary to their recitations, shall have in view the study of a Christian philosopher, and in returning to their homes, shall be confronted by the world as emblematic of the fact that is to challenge their thoughts and deeds when they once shall leave these college shades for the realities of life; and no matter what profession or occupation they engage in, the *world* lies open before them, in which to solve the problem of their existence.

On one of the remaining sides of the die is cut a quotation, in Latin, taken from the works of the English philosopher Bacon:

Philosophia obiter libata
Abducit a deo;
Penitus hausta reducit
Ad Eundem.

And on the remaining side is cut the following inscription:

Dr. Frederick Augustus Rauch,
First President of Marshall College,
born at
Kirchenbracht, in Hesse Darmstadt,
July 27, 1806
Died at Mercersburg, Pa., March 2, 1841.[27]

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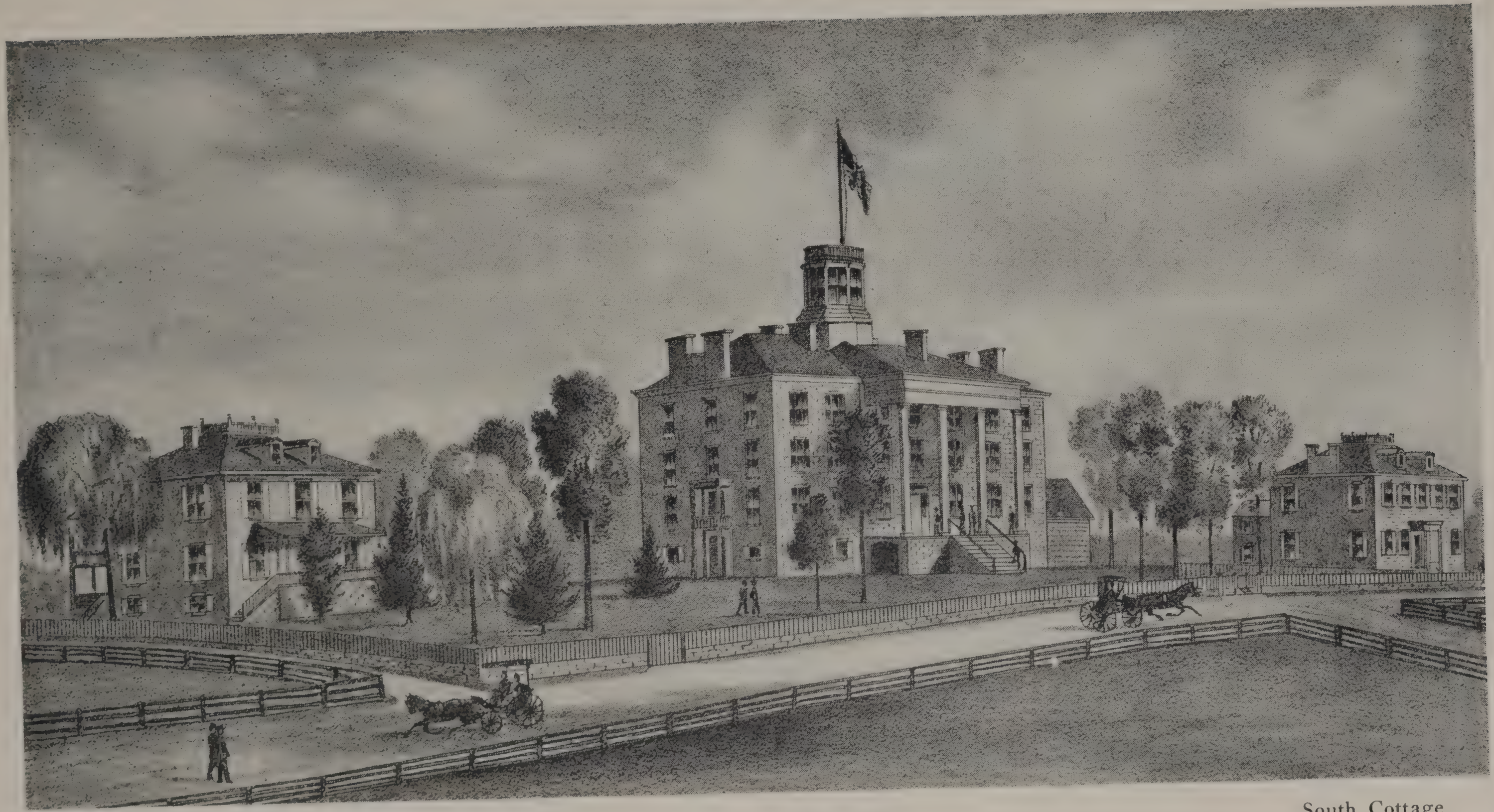
[27] Reprinted in *Reformed Church Messenger,* June 21, 1871.

CHAPTER VIII

The First Buildings

THREE different educational institutions very closely related to one another were in operation in Mercersburg by the autumn of 1837. There was the preparatory, or grammar school, established under the care and superintendence of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, in which were taught all the branches of a good English education. There was the college, properly so called, in which all who chose to enter after they had made sufficient preparation in the grammar school could pass through a full course and select such branches of study as they might need. Furthermore, there was the Theological Seminary, intended only for those who made theology their aim, or who designed to become ministers of the gospel, and who had previously gone through some or all of the branches of study taught in the college.

The Theological Seminary was not transferred from York to Mercersburg for two years after the Classical School had been removed there, because of a certain reluctance of Dr. Lewis Mayer to leave York. This was due to his personal attachment to the members of his former congregation there and to failing health. In addition to this factor there was a want of suitable buildings to receive the Seminary library at Mercersburg. As soon as there was assurance of a new edifice, the removal of the Seminary as authorized by the Synod was made effective, and both institutions moved onward, side by side, as they had done in York. Another consideration that entered into the delay of the Seminary in going to Mercersburg was that the Board of Trustees feared that the charter locating the Seminary at York had to be legally altered before the institution could be removed elsewhere, and the Board did



North Cottage
Main Hall
South Cottage

MARSHALL COLLEGE

not feel itself authorized to make appropriations of Synod's funds for the payment of professors' salaries outside of the town of York. These obstacles were removed when recourse to legal advice showed that they did not exist in fact.

The synod meeting at Chambersburg in 1835, simultaneously with its decision to remove the institutions to Mercersburg, appointed a committee for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings for the Classical School and the Theological Seminary at their new location. This committee met on several occasions and "with much fear and trembling at length resolved, in the fear of God and in reliance upon His aid and grace, to build a house for the honor and praise of His great name. Having thus concluded, the procurement of a suitable site next demanded the attention of the committee. Among the several offered, the ground proposed by William M'Kinstry, Esq., is thought to be most eligible. The lot is an oblong square, containing four acres of ground, on a beautiful eminence, next adjoining the village, commanding a most delightful view of the surrounding scenery, surrounded and made accessible by roads and avenues. The consideration is *$500,* being the amount of Mr. M'Kinstry's subscription, and included in the pledge of $10,000. Mr. M'Kinstry has stipulated in an agreement to make conveyance thereof to Synod."[1]

As early as January 20, 1836, an advertisement appeared in public print stating that the committee appointed by the Synod to superintend the erection of suitable buildings, having purchased a site and taken preparatory measures for the erection of a Theological Edifice, would request the subscribers to make payment of the first installment to Daniel Shaffer, Esq. or Mr. James O. Carson, Mercersburg. The building committee consisted of George Besore, James O. Carson, Daniel Shaffer, and John Smith.[2]

A week later an editorial appeared, calling attention to the fact that the Classical Institution was almost daily receiving new accessions of students, and was in great want of suitable buildings, and declaring therefore that the proposed edifice ought to be erected with as little delay as possible. "The site chosen is indeed a beautiful spot, contiguous to the town, commanding a full view of the bold and picturesque scenery with which that place is surrounded."[3]

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[1] Report of the Building Committee, in the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of Baltimore, September 22, 1836.

[2] *Reformed Church Messenger,* January 20, 1836.

This was followed in March with another public notice by the building committee, stating that sealed proposals would be received before the fifteenth day of March for the erection and furnishing of all the material, of an edifice for the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. The structure was to consist of a center building, forty by forty-eight feet, with two wings, thirty-one by forty feet each, all four stories high, with a cupola upon the center building. This was afterwards known in Mercersburg as " Old Main."[4]

The contract was awarded to Mr. Nicolas Pearse (or Pierce), of Chambersburg, for the erection and completion of the edifice. The cost was to be $9500, to be paid in six equal installments. During the summer of 1836 the foundations were laid and on a high day in August of that year the corner-stone-laying of the first building of the new institutions at Mercersburg was an event worth describing in detail. We have a record of an eye-witness:

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE

We had the pleasure, on Wednesday last, to be one of the multitude who witnessed the truly interesting and heart-cheering solemnities of the laying of the *Corner Stone* of the Theological Edifice of the German Reformed Church, at Mercersburg. . . . [There was] a vast concourse in attendance on the occasion, among whom we were rejoiced to see many of the warm-hearted friends of the church from every part of Franklin county—from Hagerstown, Middletown, Boonsborough, Frederick city and Baltimore, Md., and even from Virginia and other places. The day was delightful—and although the previous day threatened, by its dark clouds, to be succeeded by an *unfavorable* one, it turned out to be merely the

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[3] *Ibid.*, January 27, 1836.

[4] *Ibid.*, March 9, 1836.

. . . . "cloudy day,
Which shades the brightness of the coming morn."

For, when we arose at the dawn of day, on the memorable 17th, we beheld the sky all over serene and beautiful; and, in a short time, the orb of day arose in the blue vault of heaven, in all the majestic splendor with which he burst upon the world at dawn of creation.

A ride of three hours brought us to the beautiful town of Mercersburg. When within sight of the place, on the eminence from which every nook and corner is seen, we were already apprized, by the din and bustle, such as the streets of Mercersburg probably never before presented, that the number of people was greater than "the town could contain."

The procession was formed at the German Reformed Church, and proceeded, under the direction of WM. McKINSTRY, Esq., as Chief Marshal, assisted by Cols. WEAVER and MURPHY, Captains SMITH, Dr. SCOTT and Mr. HENRY RUBY, to Main street, up Main to Seminary street, and from thence to a beautiful grove, adjacent to the edifice, in the following order:

1. Professors of Seminary. [The Rev. Prof. Mayer being absent, his place, on this occasion, was filled, agreeably to request, by Rev. Dr. Hendel.]
2. Officiating Clergy.
3. Board of Visitors.
4. Clergy.
5. Trustees of the Seminary.
6. Committees.
7. Music (consisting of the Greencastle and Chambersburg Bands).
8. Choir (under the direction of Mr. Rich'd Hunt).
9. Trustees of Marshall College.
10. Faculty and Students.
11. Ladies.
12. Citizens and strangers.

The following was the order of the exercises, directed (at the special request of the Committee of Arrangement) by Rev. J. B. Rebough, assisted by Elders Bruner, of Frederick, Rickenbaugh, of Hagerstown, Cushwa, of Clearspring, Kieffer, of St. Thomas, Snively, Hortman, and Hade, of Greencastle, Wolff and Heyser, of Chambersburg, Barrick, of Glade Church, and Mr. J. Besore, of Waynesborough:

1. An Introductory Anthem, by the choir.
2. Invocation (German language), by Rev. B. S. Schneck.
3. The following was sung, by the Congregation, from Ps. 102, part 2d.

. . . . .

4. Prayer (German language), by Dr. Hendel.
5. Anthem, by the choir.
6. Address (German language), by Rev. Wm. A. Good [at the urgent solicitation of the Committee—the gentleman specially appointed not being present].
7. Anthem, by the choir.
8. Prayer (English language), by Rev. Geo. W. Glessner.
9. An appropriate Address (English language), by Rev. H. L. Rice.
10. A beautiful hymn was sung by the congregation, during which a collection was taken up in aid of the building.

. . . . .

The procession then moved towards the spot on which the edifice is to be erected. After the vast concourse had been collected around the walls, a grand and imposing spectacle presented itself to the eye of the spectator. Here was the foundation upon which was to be reared an edifice to the glory of the Most High God—having for its object the preparation of young men for the gospel ministry in the Church of Jesus Christ. . . .

When the congregation was assembled around the building, a part of the 333d hymn was read by the Rev. Mr. Heiner, of Baltimore, and sung by the vast congregation, after which the Rev. Dr. Rauch offered up a prayer in the German language.

A brief history of the origin, rise, and progress of the Seminary was then read by the Rev. J. C. Bucher, of Middletown, Md., whereupon the Corner Stone was laid by the Rev. Dr. Rauch, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Hendel. The Rev. J. Rebough, of Boonsborough, Md., then presented, in the name of the Building Committee and Board of Visitors, the box containing the articles to be deposited in the Corner Stone, consisting of the following, viz.:

The Bible.
The Heidelberg Catechism, in German and English.
A copy of the English Hymn Book.
Minutes of Synod, for the years 1824, 1825, 1829, and 1835.
Narrative of the rise and progress of the Seminary to this date.
Constitution and Discipline of the German Reformed Church.
One copy of the Magazine, and two copies of the Weekly Messenger of the German Reformed Church.
The names of the Officers of the General and State Governments, Professors of Seminary, Board of Visitors, Building Committee, Architect, and Contractor—and
A copy of the Order of Procession and Services of the Day.

The Rev. Daniel Zacharias, of Frederick City, Md., offered up the concluding prayer, and the Rev. J. B. Rebough pronounced the benediction—after which the procession formed itself, under the direction of the Marshals of the day, and passed around the foundation of the edifice, while the band performed several pieces of music, from thence to the public square, and there dismissed.

. . . . .

Professor Rauch . . . addressed the Throne of Grace in the German language. It was the utterance of a heart that feels itself in the immediate presence of a Holy Being—and yet feels assured of an audience with that Being, through a Redeemer's righteousness. He invoked Heaven's richest blessing upon the institution in which the future Heralds of the Cross, in this branch of the Redeemer's Kingdom, were to be prepared—prayed for an increase of zeal among ministers and people—for more laborers in the vineyard of the Lord—and earnestly besought God to save, forever, the institution, now about to be reared, from dangerous errors, by which the glory of the Redeemer would be tarnished, or but part of the honor rendered which is due to him as the most High God—and fervently supplicated a spirit of devoted, holy zeal to actuate all who might enter these walls as candidates for the ministry. The prayer was said, and as we looked over the vast audience, we saw a holy fear resting upon many countenances, and the pearly tear trembling in the eyes of not a few, who, with us, seemed prepared to join in a hearty *Amen*. . . .

[One of the speakers] alluded to the frequent, but ineffectual attempts which had been made by the fathers of the Reformed Church in this country, who are now no more, to establish a Theological Seminary for the education of pious young men for the holy ministry, among whom he enumerated a Schlatter, a Hendel, a Helfenstein, a Wagner, a Hiester, a Pauli, and others—and we could not suppress the thought, that if these pious men were now permitted to stand on this sacred spot, their hearts would overflow with gratitude to God, that the day star had arisen in America upon our Reformed Church. . . .[5]

By September the principal story was up. The contractor promised that the building would be under roof before the approach of winter, and that some part of it would be ready to be occupied in the spring. The building committee, in reporting to the Synod at Baltimore, said: "We build in faith, believing that the Great Head of the Church will prosper our school of the prophets, filling it with inmates, who shall, in His own good time, go forth as heralds of salvation. This hope is confirmed by the fact that *forty* young men are now engaged in preparation to enter the ministry." Therefore the committee made four definite recommendations:

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[5] *Ibid.*, August 24, 1836.

"1. The finishing and internal completion of the basement story. [The original design was not to finish it.]

"2. The enclosure of the Seminary ground and the erection of professors' houses.

"3. The employment of a suitable agency to collect moneys for the building fund.

"4. The appointment of a full building committee, part of which may be made of gentlemen from Hagers-Town and Green Castle."[6]

Meanwhile several new professors were appointed by the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, among them being the Rev. Joseph F. Berg of Harrisburg, who taught Latin and Greek and Belles Lettres in the college. The Board also procured a suitable place to hold recitations for the winter session, or until the new structure could be made ready. The rent for the session was $50, which included stove-rent, fuel, and the necessary attendance. The Board also announced that the first installment of the state appropriation of $6000 for Marshall College had been received, and the treasurer was authorized to pay the professors out of this sum.

One of the moving spirits of the building enterprise at Mercersburg was the Rev. H. L. Rice of Chambersburg, President of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College. He collected a great deal of money for the institution, and inspired others with his determination and faith. His death in 1837 at the age of forty-two was a great blow to the whole project.

At the Synod of Sunbury, September, 1837, it was learned that the York buildings had been sold to Dr. Mayer for $3200, and that $4957 had been gathered within the year from other sources for the new building, which was to be finished by November. The structure was to have forty-four rooms or apartments, with convenient halls running the whole length of the building on all the stories. Thirty-four of the rooms were to be used by students; the remainder consisted of four recitation rooms of convenient dimensions, a lecture-hall, a library room, and refectory, with the necessary apartments for a steward and his family.

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[6] Report of the committee, in the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of Baltimore, 1836.

"We are gratified," said the *Messenger,* "to have it in our power to state, that the ladies in several towns and villages are making arrangements for furnishing rooms in the Seminary Building at Mercersburg. In addition to York and Chambersburg, the ladies of Mercersburg, Waynesboro', Frederick, Baltimore, Hagerstown, and Greencastle have determined to furnish a room each for the use of beneficiary students."[7]

It appears that there was a recitation room for each of the four professors on the second story as the students entered the building through the lofty front steps; a spacious prayer-hall on the third story, and on the fourth floor a hall of the same dimensions for the library. The students' rooms were in the wings, and a refectory in the basement.

On the removal of the seminary library to Mercersburg, the seminary Board found itself compelled to fit up the room in the new building which had been designed for its reception. The building was soon overcrowded by the seminary and the college, and the students were compelled to take lodgings in the town, wherever they could find them.

Two professor's houses were built in 1838 and 1839. The building committee reported to the Synod of Philadelphia in October, 1839, that the first house had been completed, and stated that it had been occupied by Dr. Rauch since the summer semester. The contractor, Jacob Hossler, was paid $2600 for its erection. The committee also stated that because of the success of the financial agency of the college and the lack of comfortable residences in Mercersburg a second house had been contracted for, and was to be occupied by the Professor of Theology, who at that time was Dr. Lewis Mayer. This building was being erected by P. Ritterhaus and Company, and because of certain changes in the plan and improvements of various kinds was to cost $3200. It was to be finished by November 1, 1839. The committee added that the second professor's house was "a model of the best builder's art and a great credit to the contractors."[8]

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[7] *Reformed Church Messenger,* November 22, 1837.

The first building to be completed, to the right of the seminary edifice, has become known in more recent years as "North Cottage." Now the residence of the present Headmaster of the Mercersburg Academy, Dr. Boyd Edwards, and until 1928 of his predecessor, Dr. William Mann Irvine, North Cottage had been occupied in earlier years, after the death of its first occupant, Dr. Rauch, successively by Dr. Philip Schaff, Dr. E. E. Higbee, and Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh.

The other dwelling, to the left of the main building, is now called "South Cottage." It was the home of Dr. Bernard C. Wolff, Dr. John W. Nevin, Prof. William M. Nevin, Dr. Theodore Appel, Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Prof. Jacob Kershner, Dr. E. V. Gerhart and Dr. William Deatrick, and is now used as a dormitory.

These three buildings comprised the original plant of the college and seminary at Mercersburg. The two residences are still in existence but the original seminary building known to Mercersburg boys for almost three generations as "Old Main" was burned to the ground in the early morning of January 9, 1927.

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[8] From the German of the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of Philadelphia, 1839.

Chapter IX

The First Faculty Meetings

WE publish herewith the original minutes of the proceedings of the Faculty of Marshall College, covering the period from May, 1837, to November 2, 1841. They are written in very legible handwriting in a small book, a quarter of an inch thick and about six by seven inches in size. This interesting little volume is a mirror reflecting the life of a small college of the early nineteenth century. It reveals the problems with which the faculty was confronted, and the pranks and misdeeds of the students. What will strike the modern reader most forcibly, perhaps, is the naïvété of the faculty.[1]

Marshall College 1st June 1837

The Faculty of this College was organized in November of 1836 by the appointment of Dr. Rauch as President (the Board of Trustees not yet having passed the Law that the President of the College should be President of the Faculty ex officio) and Mr. Budd as secretary.

The proceedings of the Winter session being made up of alterations of the method of conducting the recitations and some slight changes in the discipline that had been used before the chartering of the college it has been thought unnecessary to present them again here as most of them & all that are of importance appear in the form of alterations in the printed laws.

The following pages will contain a more detailed account of future proceedings.

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[1] The original Faculty Minute Book is in the Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

On the 29th May the Faculty held its first meeting of the summer session, the studies & hours of recitation having been arranged at the close of the Winter session. The following resolutions were passed and then the Faculty adjourned—

Whereas, by the death of the Rev. H. L. Rice since our adjournment at the close of the last session we have been deprived of the services of a most faithful & zealous coadjutor of our efforts to raise up our young institution & being desirous to exhibit, in a public manner the deep regret we feel upon the loss of our dear & estimable friend and to express our sympathy with the congregation at Chambersburgh and the other friends of the deceased

We therefore resolve That the President be requested to deliver an address commemorative of his life & character before the College on Wednesday the 12th July ensuing and that as an additional testimony of our respect for his memory we will wear crape on the left arm until the same day

That we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the congregation at Chambersburgh for their generosity in resigning the valuable services of the deceased when he was appointed agent for the College; and that it increases our affliction that he was no doubt engaged in our behalf too warmly for his weak health to bear when he was seized with the sickness which brought on his death.

S. W. BUDD, JR.
Secretary

3rd June 1837

Mr. Wolfensberger was before the Faculty today to account for his absence from examination at the close of last session. The circumstances were aggravating, but on Mr. Wolfensberger's making acknowledgements to the faculty of his sorrow & his ignorance of the kind of respect due them he was dismissed with admonition.

It was resolved to hold the meetings on Mondays at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday, 12th June

Mr. Boggs sent for for absence from recitation. He gave sickness as excuse but was reminded that it was necessary to anticipate the Teacher's inquiries in giving excuses. Mr. Welsh and Mr. Heyser were interrogated concerning want of preparation in the Homer Class and after recommendation to exert themselves more were dismissed.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Saturday, 17th

The Faculty met this morning to examine Mr. Phillips for the Freshman class, being unprepared to stand examination in Latin and Greek he was admitted as an irregular student into the Mathematical classes.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 19th June 1837

Mr. Downey was before the Faculty this afternoon to explain the circumstances of his having been seen at the Tavern. It appeared he had gone to see a friend & forgetful of the rule he had no excuse. He was reprimanded & on making proper acknowledgement was dismissed.

Nothing else of importance—

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

26 June 1837 Monday

Mr. Ernst & Mr. Phillips had to be reprimanded for absence from Bible recitation.

30th June 1837

Mr. Walton was examined and admitted into the Junior Class probationed on Mathematical studies.

It ought to have been mentioned that on the 21st Mr. McCullough was examined and admitted into the Freshman class probationed on Algebra.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 3rd July 1837

Mr. Dick was summoned to give excuse for absence from recitation. Adjourned to Wednesday afternoon.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday, 10th July

Meeting did not take place on Wednesday according to adjournment from some mistake. Mr. Boggs was brought up before the Faculty to give explanation of his absence on Monday contrary to the prohibition of Professor Berg from whom he had asked permission. No satisfactory reason having been given Mr. Berg was requested to give him private admonition.

And then the meeting adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 17th July

The Faculty met this afternoon but no business was done which requires to be recorded

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Thursday

The Faculty met this evening on account of Mr. Dick's having behaved improperly during the recitation towards Professor Berg. Mr. Dick expressed the deepest regret at what had taken place and made acknowledgements before the Faculty & offered to do so before the class in whose presence he had offended and Professor Berg having expressed the fullest satisfaction with these acknowledgements, the matter was dismissed.

S. W. BUDD, *Sec'y*

Monday 24th July

Messrs. Rupley, Kremer, Houser, Funk appeared to give excuses for absenses from recitation. All were received but Mr. Rupley's who was reprimanded—

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Friday 28th July

The Faculty had an extraordinary meeting this afternoon to consider some charges against Mr. Walton.

The first fact adduced was one on the testimony of Mr. Good that Mr. Walton was in the habit of using profane and obscene language in conversation with the students.

The second was that he was actively engaged in a visit on the evening before with several other boys and persons in Town.

Mr. Walton admitted that both charges were correct, and the Faculty resolved that he should be admonished before them for the first and be suspended from the recitations of the institution for the space of three weeks for the second offence.

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday, 31 July 1837

Charges laid against Mr. Kroh on the authority of Mr. Lane of having disturbed the peace of the Town by entertaining a Mr. Blanchard at his house, a lecturer on Abolition, secondly of having permitted him to lecture in his house, and thirdly of having violated a law of the college which forbids students carrying firearms. Mr. Kroh having been seen carrying a gun up the street into his house.

Mr. Kroh stated that Mr. Blanchard was not known to him until he came to Mercersburg, That when he came he applied to Mr. Kroh as the keeper of a public boarding house to be admitted as a Boarder and Mr. Kroh said he did not feel at liberty to refuse to entertain him as he did not disapprove of his sentiments. He did not consider that he had violated the peace of the Town in receiving Mr. Blanchard into his house.

Mr. Kroh denied that there had been a lecture in his house, he stated that Mr. Blanchard in the course of a family conversation had only answered questions which were put to him by the inmates of his house & two or three gentlemen who had called in from curiosity to see & converse with Mr. Blanchard. He said that students had inquired of him whether Mr. Blanchard would lecture at his house and he had told them he would not. He said he had avoided giving invitations to students to come to his house while Mr. Blanchard was there. In regard to the third charge Mr. Kroh said that on Saturday evening Mr. James O. Carson had sent him word that he had heard that some persons in Town were contemplating an attack upon his house on that night and he advised him to furnish himself with the means of defence and offered the use of a gun which he advised him to carry through the street openly, for that when it should be known he was prepared to defend himself he would probably be unmolested. He said in the hurry and excitement of the moment it did not occur to him to ask permission or to obtain the opinion of the Faculty about the matter or that he would have done so.

The Faculty considering that it did not fall within their duty to prosecute the charges against this statement of Mr. Kroh resolved to dismiss them from further consideration at present. There was no other business presented and so the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 7th August 1837

Mr. Berg being absent & no business which it was thought advisable to proceed with without his assistance being presented, there was no meeting of the Faculty this evening.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 14th Aug. 1837

The Faculty resolved that the examination should commence on Thursday & continue till Monday evening before commencement; That it would be most agreeable if the societies would have the address of Mr. Champneys before them on Tuesday afternoon. That the societies be requested each to appoint 2 or 3 speakers for Tuesday evening. That the Secretary should arrange the hours on which the different subjects of examination should be taken up and then that they adjourn.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Thursday evening

A letter received from Mr. Lane a week or two ago (Letter No. 1) brought Mr. Kroh's case again before the Faculty.

The Faculty thought it particularly their duty to inquire, whether Mr. Kroh had invited any of the students to be present at his house and whether he had deceived them in his representation that there had only been a family conversation with Mr. Blanchard.

Mr. Lane referred the Faculty to Arthur Chambers of the preparatory school whom he understood to have been invited by Mr. Kroh. Mr. Kroh denied positively having invited him to hear Mr. Blanchard's sentiments and Arthur was sent for and made several successive statements as follows:

1st Statement

That he was sitting opposite Mr. Dick's store and that Mr. Kroh had passed him and told him there was going to be a lecture at his house but did not invite him.

2nd Statement. That he had asked Mr. Kroh if there would be a lecture & Mr. Kroh answered there would be a lecture or talk or something. He was almost sure it was Mr. Kroh he asked.

3rd Statement. He could not be positive that it was Mr. Kroh whom he asked.

This evidence cleared Mr. Kroh of having invited Arthur Chambers who moreover was not at Mr. Kroh's house.

From further examination of Mr. Kroh however it appeared that what Mr. Kroh considered a family conversation the Faculty considered a lecture, particularly as the evening had been opened & closed with prayer. Mr. Kroh stated further that he did not contemplate having a lecture at his house, when Mr. Blanchard was going to proceed with these formalities he could not arrest him with any propriety; that particularly it was not his wish or intention to deceive the Faculty in his statement when the matter was before them before.

The Faculty in view of all the circumstances after much deliberation, decided that Mr. Kroh should be reprimanded before the students for the manner in which he had withheld a part of the facts by which they could judge whether Mr. Blanchard had lectured at his house or not, and also for the fact of his having lectured when the Faculty had forbidden a student taking a decided & public part in this exciting question, though the Faculty thought Mr. Kroh's ignorance of Mr. Blanchard's intention to lecture was an alleviating circumstance.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Monday 21st Aug 1837

The Faculty resolved that in general the examination of the Senior Class should be four weeks before Commencement but that this year as the time was rather limited it should be on Wednesday two weeks before Commencement.

The Secretary was ordered to prepare several resolutions & submit them to the Board of Trustees at their ensuing meeting. What these resolutions will be, will be seen when his report is accepted by the Faculty.

The Secretary was authorized to report an arrangement of the examination at the next meeting.

And then the meeting adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

28 Aug. 1837

No business of importance

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Sept 4th 1837

No business of importance

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Sept 11th

Permission was given to Mr. Phillips to return home on account of business. Nothing else of importance

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

SUMMER SESSION 1838

May 28th, 1938

The Faculty, consisting of Dr. Rauch, Prof. Budd and Prof Smith & the Rector Mr. Good held their first meeting this afternoon; all present. Mr. Good had up several boys of the preparatory school for not attending chapel service; they gave their excuses and were disciplined with a caution to be as punctual as possible in all exercises. Some were also admonished for noisy conduct in their boarding houses.

No other business of importance

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

June 4th, 1838

The Faculty held its usual meeting this afternoon. Mr. Boggs was brought up to answer for irregularity in attendance on public worship and recitations.

The Faculty had much conversation upon the subject of asking the Trustees for a Tutor to assist the Professor of Languages which they resolved to do & request Prof. Smith to nominate a gentleman who would be agreeable to him.

And then the Faculty adjourned without further action in the matter.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

June 11th, 1838

Mr. Dean, questioned concerning his mode of residence, answered to the satisfaction of the Faculty. Mr. E. Lane of the preparatory school and Mr. Boggs were brought up for irregular attendance at recitation, were dismissed with a caution to the former that he should prepare his Latin recitations rather better in future.

Mr. Herschberger was interrogated concerning his absence from Mr. Bomberger's recitations & explained that he was unable to keep up with his class & had applied to Mr. Good for private recitation which explanation was received on condition of it being also given to Mr. Bomberger.

The Faculty after conversation on other matters adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

June 18th, 1838

The Faculty resolved that Mr. Bomberger of the preparatory school be invited to attend their Meetings hereafter. That the Senior Class speak next Friday six weeks in the Prayer Hall.

June 25th, 1838

Mr. Boggs brought up for irregularity at recitations. Dismissed with admonition. Mr. Wrench, Mr. Sutcliffe, Mr. Lane of the Preparatory school, the former two for absence from religious exercises & the last for irregularity at recitations. It was resolved to inform his parents.

It was resolved that students of the preparatory school who appear before the faculty three times & receive admonition be deprived of their student privileges.

The Secretary was ordered to report the names of the students who have not paid their tuition fees this session.

Nothing else of importance.

The Secretary was requested to reply to a letter from the Secretary of the Board of Trustees calling for information concerning the number of students & other particulars.

Adjourned

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

July 2 1838

Mr. Boggs was ordered to be confined for the whole of tomorrow for irregularity.

An invitation to attend the student celebration of the 4th July was ordered to be accepted. The delinquents at the

Treasury were ordered to be brought up next time for explanation. Adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

July 9th, 1838

The students who had not paid their tuition were summoned & requested to attend to it.

Messrs. Grims and Heckrote were summoned to answer for irregularity in the refectory and were admonished of the importance of being as orderly as possible there.

Mr. Sutcliffe of the preparatory school was brought to account for keeping irregular hours in the evening & dismissed with admonition.

Prof. Smith introduced the subject of declamation & composition & it was resolved to have the exercises resumed as soon as the additional instructors expected would have entered the college.

And the the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

July 10th 1838

Mr. Lane for irregular attendance at recitations during the greater part of the session was deprived of the privilege of studying at home in school hours.

The Faculty decided to prepare a list of Books to submit as suitable for immediate purchase by the Board of Trustees for the use of the College.

Nothing else of consequence.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

July 23rd, 1838

No business to record

S. W. BUDD, JR.

July 30th, 1838

Several delinquents of the Preparatory School from the exercises of composition & declamation were reprimanded &

dismissed on condition of attending to them regularly in the future.

Mr. James Myers was punished for disobedience to Mr. Bomberger by being deprived of his "student privileges" for a week and made to render acknowledgement to Mr. Bomberger for his fault.

Nothing else of consequence.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

August 6th, 1838

The examination of the senior class arranged, it was resolved to hold it in the mornings and have the other classes recite once a day whilst it is going on.

The exercises in public speaking were also assigned for Wednesdays at 4 o'clock; and the faculty meetings were ordered to be held after the speaking shall be over.

Nothing else of importance.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Aug. 15, 1838

No business relating to discipline.

The classes of composition were so arranged that each student should have to perform that exercise every four weeks.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Aug. 21st 1838

The Faculty held a special meeting to consider the case of Mr. McCullough who was represented to have become a dangerous inmate of the college. A great number of statements were made to the Faculty from various sources to be depended on and in consequence of them it was resolved that Mr. McCullough be requested to withdraw quietly from the institution immediately.

Nothing else done this evening.

S. W. BUDD JR.

August 22nd

The Faculty held their usual regular meeting. Mr. Good reported eighteen members of the Preparatory school who had gone to the circus without permission. After much consultation it was resolved that Dr. Rauch should lecture them in the presence of the Teachers and all the scholars of that department.

Jacob Heyser was brought up for going out of his room on last Friday evening to Town after prayers without permission. He was reminded of having been before the Faculty for a similar offence two weeks before and asked distinctly whether he intended to continue to go out without permission so late in the evening. He said he did not so intend, & upon this understanding he was allowed to withdraw.

Nothing else of importance.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

August 29th

The Faculty met as usual this afternoon. They made arrangements concerning commencement & its exercises. They also resolved to hold the examination of the College in the morning & that of the Preparatory School in the afternoon of the week previous. And to examine candidates for admission into college on the Monday before. The hours & subjects were directed to be made known to the students.

The Faculty resolved that Mr. Young should deliver an oration in the German Language on Commencement Day, that the members of the class should select one to pronounce the Valedictory and that no other distinctions should be made in scholarship or exercises of commencement day.

Nothing else and then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

September 5th 1838

No business of importance

S. W. BUDD JR.

Sept 12th, 1838

No business of importance

S. W. BUDD JR.

Sept 14th, 1838

The Faculty met to consider the cases of Messrs Lantz, Gettier and Erb of the Preparatory school who had omitted the exercises of speaking & failed to appear before the Faculty when summoned. Mr. Lantz was required to perform the exercise at some-time to be appointed by Mr. Good and apologize to him; and the two others were besides reproved by the Faculty in consideration of aggravating circumstances.

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Sept. 19th, 1838

The Faculty only made arrangements for examination and directed the Secretary to attend to some matters of little consequence to be recorded here.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Sept. 24th

The Faculty directed the Secretary to report to the Board of Trustees as follows.

On the subject of a library recommending the appropriation of $500 immediately & the reasons.

On the subject of philosophical apparatus to ask for more time to consider.

On the subject of the Refectory to ask the Board to indemnify those who have overpaid the late steward. And to ask that the Treasurer be authorized to make a settlement with the professors partially in the middle of the session with the funds he has in hand from Tuition, and to complete the settlement always before the end of the session on a certain day without waiting for the formal order of the Board.

The Secretary was then directed to make out the certificates to be sent to the Parents or Guardians from Data then furnished to him by the several Professors. Various arrangements were made relative to the exercises of Commencement which it is not thought necessary to detail.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

WINTER SESSION, NOV., 1838

Wednesday 14th Nov. 1838

Much conversation was had on various subjects but no formal resolution was come to when the Faculty adjourned

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 21st Nov. 1838

No business transacted

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 28th Nov.

The new regulations for the Preparatory school were spoken of; but it was resolved to defer considering them until more time could be commanded.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 5th Dec. 1838

Nothing of importance was resolved on.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Monday 10th December 1838

An extra meeting was called to consider the case of Mr. Hoffius who was said to have challenged Mr. McDowell to a duel. It appeared that the challenge was made rather in sport, but that other circumstances justified the private admonition of both gentlemen and particularly Mr. Hoffius.

Mr. Barclay was reported to have posted up a note left in his room by one of the officers of college & it was resolved to admonish him before the Faculty for a breach of respect.

The subject of the preparatory school was again mentioned, but postponed on account of the absence of the Rector.

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 12th 1838

Mr. Grimes who was concerned with Mr. Hoffius in the trick imposed upon Mr. McDowell was admonished along with him; & warned not to employ himself in the annoyance of his fellow students as he had done in previous cases.

No other business of importance.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Tuesday 18th 1838

The Faculty learned with regret the death of Mr. Ziegler lately one of the students of the Institution, who was engaged teaching school near Hagerstown. The students wished to go for the body of Mr. Ziegler & have it interred in the ground belonging to the Germ. Ref. Church in this place. The Faculty wished to dissuade them, but as they persisted the Faculty withdrew their opposition & a committee of the students were allowed to go.

Dr. Rauch showed a letter from Mr. Downs of Harpers Ferry who complained of the treatment of his son by Mr. Good. It was resolved to investigate the matter as soon as it could be done & in the mean time that a letter should be written to Mr. Downs acquainting him with the resolution.

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Dec. 24th 1838

The Faculty met this evening to consider the case of the son of Mr. Downs. The full consideration was however put off till the regular meeting Wednesday.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Dec. Wednesday 26th 1838

Mr. Good made a satisfactory explanation of the origin of the complaints of young Downs, which Dr. Rauch was requested to communicate to his Father.

Prof. Smith was requested to report a progressive plan of punishment for absence from the regular duties of the institution, to include all the students and to be adequate in extreme cases.

Mr. Good was requested to prepare a code of regulations for the admonition & discipline of the preparatory school and report it for the consideration of the Faculty.

Mr. Middlekauff was reproved for absence last week without permission.

No other business transacted.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Jan. 2nd, 1839

The Faculty held a conversation concerning a plan to keep a more accurate record of the scholarship of the students, & agreed to adopt a system of marks which Mr. Stoddard was requested to prepare according to the plan followed in Yale College.

No business was formally transacted but this.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 9th Jan. 1839

The Faculty was principally engaged in considering the united reports of Prof. Smith & Mr. Stoddard & adjourned to Saturday afternoon to complete it.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Saturday 12th Jan. 1839

The following system in regard to college exercises was finally adopted and ordered to be posted up for the information of the students.

1. ABSENCES AND FAILURES

1. An exact account will be kept by the monitors of absences from recitations, prayers, the weekly exercises in composition & declamation and the religious services of the Sabbath.

2. Tardiness in any two of these exercises will be considered equal to one absence.

3. If eight unexcused absences or failures shall be recorded against any student a letter will be written to his parent or guardian informing him of the fact.

See ¶2

4. Twelve unexcused absences or failures will be followed by a report from the Faculty, and the student will be considered on the second stage of discipline.

5. Sixteen unexcused absences or failures will oblige the Faculty to inform the Parent or Guardian that his son (or ward) is on the third and last stage of discipline.

6. Twenty unexcused absences or failures will be followed by a dismission from college.

7. At the end of the winter session every student will have four marks deducted from his account and the remainder shall be transferred to the account of the next session.

8. At the end of the summer session, the account will be closed, and every student be allowed to commence the succeeding year free from marks.

9. Excuses are always to be given beforehand, except in cases of necessity.

2 RECITATIONS

1. Each instructor will keep an exact account of his recitations & employ the following system of marks:

Total failure denoted by 0
Bad recitation denoted by 1
Tolerable recitation denoted by . . . 2
Good recitation denoted by 3
Excellent recitation denoted by . . . 4
Perfect recitation denoted by 5

2. A failure to perform an exercise in declamation will be considered equal to *two,* and a failure in composition equal to *three* failures in an ordinary recitation.

3. At the end of every session, the average standing of each student will be transmitted as heretofore to his Parent or Guardian.

4. If, at the end of the year, any student's average for that year shall fall below *two* he shall be transferred to the next lower class.

5. At the termination of the college course, commencement honors will be thus awarded by the Faculty:

All those, the average of whose recitations during the course is No. 4 and above will be appointed to deliver Latin, Greek, German, or English Philosophical orations, or the valedictory address.

All those whose average shall be No. 3 and between 3 and 4 shall receive English orations

All whose average shall be No. 2 or between 2 and 3 will receive dissertations or dialogues.

All whose average is below No. 2 will receive no honor

A student besides performing his own part may fulfil any inferior appointment, provided always that no one exhibit more than twice.

An arrangement was commenced for the more frequent performance of original speeches in public to include all the classes but the Freshman. It was not concluded when the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 16th Jan. 1839

In consequence of the frequent occurrence of disorder in Mr. Hoffius' room, the Faculty resolved to administer to him a reproof and to consider him as under censure until his further good conduct should remove it.

And it was then resolved in general that no student whilst he is under censure should receive an honorable dismission from the Institution.

No other business was transacted.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 23rd Jan 1839

Permission was given to Mr. Kooken to return home on account of ill health.

Considerable progress was made in the preparation of the new rules for the preparatory department, but it was not completed when the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Thursday evening 31st Jan.

The Faculty held an extraordinary meeting to examine the circumstances of the disorder that occurred last evening at Prayers held by the Rollkeeper in the absence of the officers of the college.

It appeared from the testimony of the Rollkeeper that Mr. Heyser, walked about the room during prayer and was prominent in the subsequent disorder & that Mr. Hammond blew out the light and appeared to be in the secret of the young men who planned the disturbance. It was rendered probable that Mr. Heyser had locked the door of the recitation room in which the services were held and cut the bed-cords of the Rollkeeper.

After much conversation as to the frequency of disorders lately it was thought the Faculty should not suffer these instances to pass without some notice and accordingly it was resolved that both Mr. Heyser & Mr. Hammond should be rusticated for three weeks, the former to go home and the other to Hagerstown.

Mr. Wolf was questioned as to powder known to be in his room, but no information of consequence was obtained.

And then the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Saturday 2 February 1839

From the evidence of Mr. Mish who testified that Mr. Heyser did not cut the Bedcords of Mr. Rupley and from that of Messrs. Wolf & Hoffius who testified that he did not lock the prayer room door on Wednesday evening & from the Rollkeeper admitting after the continued & earnest denial of Mr. Hammond that he did not blow out the candle, that he may have been mistaken, the Faculty were induced to re-consider their vote of rustication against Mr. Heyser & Mr. Hammond and their punishment was changed accordingly. Mr. Hammond was admonished for disorder in general on the evening in question and placed under censure.

Mr. Heyser was also admonished and placed upon the first stage of discipline as if he had had eight unexcused absences. So that a letter was ordered to be written to his Father, informing him of his mis-conduct. And it was then resolved that the system of marks adopted lately in regard to absences & failures in recitation may be applied by a special vote of the faculty to misconduct in general.

Nothing else was ordered to be recorded.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Wednesday, 6th Feb. 1839

The Faculty were occupied in considering the form that should be given to the contemplated catalogue of the officers & students of the college; they had not finished when they adjourned and gave over the preparation of it to Messrs. Budd & Stoddard.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 13th 1839

Dismission was ordered to be given to Mr. Boyer of the Junior Class, certifying his full standing in all the branches but the mathematics.

The Catalogue was finished & ordered to be printed as soon as possible. No other business.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 20th 1839

The Faculty agreed to celebrate next Thursday as a day of Prayer for colleges.

Nothing else was done when the faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 27th 1839

Dr. Rauch & Prof. Budd reported that they had according to previous arrangement ascertained the individual opinions of the members of the Board of Trustees as to the propriety of granting the students their petition for a six weeks vacation in the spring and found them favorable and the faculty resolved, if the members of the Board of Trustees should agree, to request the Secretary to call the Board together three weeks sooner than the time of adjournment & lay the matter before them.

It was agreed to arrange the examination in order to commence it in time to meet the contemplated shortening of the session. Nothing else was done.

S. W. BUDD JR. *Sect'y*

Wednesday 6th March 1839

No business of importance was done except to arrange several matters to be submitted to the Board of Trustees which is to assemble on the 29th Inst.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

Wednesday 13th March
to Saturday 16th

The Faculty have been engaged since Wednesday in examining and discussing a case brought up by Mr. Stoddard. On Tuesday noon Mr. S. was disturbed at recitation by rubbish thrown down the chimney from the cupola and on going up and finding the door closed and barred as he supposed against the officers of the college, on consultation with Mr. Budd he broke open the door and found Messrs. Heyser, Hammond, Grimes and Wolf of the College and Moore & Stout of the Preparatory school on the inside.

On Wednesday they were brought before the Faculty and several times subsequently and examined. Peter Stout was cleared by the testimony of several of the others. Mr. Hammond appeared to have gone down to the door when Mr. Stoddard first knocked, but it could not be proved that he knew of Mr. S's being there, on the contrary the testimony of all was that no one knew it was he, and there were no circumstances strong enough to induce the faculty to believe otherwise and so Mr. Hammond was acquitted on that score. As to the throwing of the crockery (the rubbish beforementioned) down the chimney, each of the five solemnly denied it. The Faculty were convinced however that it could only be done from the cupola unless it might be by some one out on the roof or on the top of the cupola & they could get no certain evidence that any one was or was not there. There consequently appeared a possibility that the young men might not be attempting to deceive the Faculty and it was therefore finally resolved that no punishment could be inflicted upon them excepting a general reproof for being absent from their rooms in study hours and being in the cupola without permission. And on general grounds it was also resolved that the five young men should be at the expense of replacing the door.

And the the case was dismissed.

S. W. Budd, Jr. *Sec'y*

Wednesday 20th March

Nothing to be recorded

S. W. Budd, Jr.

Wednesday 27th 1839

Prof. Smith read the draft of a representation concerning the Preparatory Department to be laid before the Board of Trustees next Friday.

Two others were read by the Secretary, one laying before the Board a petition of the students in which they have asked for the shortening of the Winter Session and lengthening of the Spring vacation two weeks: and another inviting the Board to appoint agents to raise funds to supply the numerous wants of the Institution in regard to endowment and Buildings, etc.

The attention of the Board was also invited to a request made by the Faculty that their salaries be paid quarterly.

And the Secretary also asked the Board to place the sum voted by them for the purchase of books at the disposal of the Faculty.

The two last items were added by the Secretary without the direction of the faculty but the members afterwards concurred & they were laid before the Board at the same time with the rest.

No other business was done at the meeting of the Faculty excepting the adoption of the first three matters referred to in these minutes.

S. W. BUDD JR.

Wednesday 3rd April 1839

The studies for next session were arranged and Tuesday the day before Commencement given to the Goethean Society for their annual celebration & the hearing of their orator. The Beneficiaries were ordered to attend to the Payment of their contingent expenses for the present & previous sessions. No other business was done.

S. W. BUDD JR. *Sect'y*

25th July 1839

The Secretary has kept notes of the proceedings of the Faculty since the Commencement of the summer session and finds it necessary to record only the following particulars by the order of the Faculty.

The reception of a letter from the Secretary of the Board of Trustees stating that according to the request of the Faculty the following resolutions had been passed by the Board.

1st Resolution lengthening the spring vacation and shortening the winter session two weeks.

2nd A resolution to ask the President of the College to correspond with the ministers of the Church who would be likely to act as agents for the college to raise funds.

3rd. To authorize the President to draw for three hundred dollars for the payment of Books for the college through the financial Committee.

4th. To make the salaries of the officers payable quarterly.

A resolution was proposed by the Faculty forbidding the students to walk out on Sabbath before supper-time and if after supper only in cases where the health of the students made that exercise necessary.

Mr. Tutor Stoddard having expressed his intention to leave the Institution in the Fall, it has hitherto been postponed to consider the subject of filling his place.

No cases of discipline have occurred necessary to be recorded.

S. W. BUDD JR
Secretary

1st August

The Faculty at the invitation of the Building Committee agreed on a plan to be recommended for the Preparatory department.

The Professor of languages was requested to make known to the Junior Class their appointment to speak on the evening before Commencement.

It was resolved that the new plan of awarding orations & exercises for commencement day should not go into operation with the present class.

Nothing else was done.

S. W. BUDD JR.

8th August

It was resolved to distribute the approaching examinations over a longer space, than formerly so that each Professor was authorized to hold an examination on any subject whenever it is finished, whilst the recitations are to be continued in the same number on other subjects until the last day of the session.

No other business was done.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

15th August

It was agreed to recommend Mr. Young for Tutor in the room of Mr. Stoddard. Mr. Gerhart in the preparatory department in place of Mr. Young, & Mr. Martin in the place of Mr. Kieffer who has expressed his intention of resigning at the close of the session.

Dr. Rauch was requested to make known the appointments and ascertain the sentiments of the Parties in regard to them. Nothing else was done.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

22nd August, 1839

The members of the Goethean Society requested next Wednesday as a holiday to celebrate the birthday of Goethe, which request was granted. The following named young gentlemen were also reported to have eight unexcused absences viz: Messrs Heyser, Hoffius, Reynolds, Mish & Hammond, their case was not concluded upon when the Faculty adjourned.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Secty*

29th Aug.

The Faculty met and adjourned to Friday evening.

S. W. BUDD JR.

31st Aug. 1839

The Faculty decided that the parents of those who were reported last week to have eight unexcused absences were to be written to by the President.

Mr. Wolf and Mr. Mish were examined as to the circumstances of a hostile meeting between them in the woods last week. It appeared that they had actually decided their differences by blows and being found equally guilty they were ordered to be reprimanded before the Faculty at 12 o'clock the next day.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

5th Augu. & 12th Aug

No business to be recorded transacted at these two meetings.

S. W. BUDD *Secy.*

Thursday 20th Aug., 1839

The Faculty met this evening at 8 o'clock for the transaction of business.

It was resolved that the list & cost of the Books purchased by order of the Board of Trustees be made out & laid before them at their next meeting.

The preparing of the circulars was given over to the Secretary and Mr. Stoddard.

Prof Smith undertook the arrangement of the Junior exhibition and the handbills for Commencement. It was resolved to request Mr. Foltz the steward to have the repairs necessary to be done to the building executed in vacation and the cost levied upon all the students excepting such damages as can be ascertained to have been done by particular students who are themselves in that case to pay the expense. The Rector of the preparatory school was requested by the Faculty to take the department of history and give instruction in that branch and ancient geography to the Freshman and Sophomore classes.

The secretary was ordered to recommend to the Board of Trustees the young men appointed as Teachers and the candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts were also to be recommended to the Board as having undergone thorough and satisfactory examination upon the whole course of studies.

No other business was transacted and the Faculty adjourned to arrange the studies for next session tomorrow.

S. W. BUDD, *Sec'y.*

Wednesday 13th Nov. 1839

After the meeting last recorded no business was transacted except the usual arrangements preparatory to Commencement. Since then the vacation has intervened and the Faculty have held their first meeting this afternoon. It was resolved that the President of the college give a certificate to the steward that he is entitled to $35 for fires in three recitation rooms and the Prayer Hall last winter.

2nd. That 50 cts. additional contingent expenses be levied on each student for repairs.

3rd. That Mr. Stehley having applied to be received as a beneficiary of the college a meeting of the committee be called in No. 20 tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock and the Secretary give notice to the members.

14th Nov. 1839

The Secretary received a communication from the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in reply to that made by the Faculty to the Board at its late meeting. It mentioned the passage of the following resolutions by the Board.

I. That the degree of Bachelor of Arts had been conferred according to the recommendation of the Faculty upon Messrs:

R. L. Dean
R. P. Little
L. L. Middlekauf
W. Phillips
L. R. Reid
W. Welker

and the degree of Bachelor of Laws upon Mr. John C. Williamson a student of the law school upon a similar recommendation made subsequently by the Faculty.

II. That the Faculty appoint Tutors and Teachers as soon as the vacancies shall have occurred at the same salaries.

III. That the Treasurer is authorized to pay the sum of $332.64 cts. to the order of the President of the College on account of the books purchased for its use.

S. W. BUDD JR.

21st Nov. 1839

The President stated his receipt of a copy of the Proceedings of the late convention to revise the constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a present from the Hon. Mr. Chambers and the Secretary was ordered to address a note to Mr. Chambers acknowledging the present in the name of the faculty. No other business.

S. W. BUDD, JR. *Sec'y*

1st Jan. 1840

From the last date to the present the Faculty have continued to hold their regular meetings but among the Secretary's notes of the proceedings he finds nothing of sufficient importance to be recorded except the examination of P. Stout, F. Montmollia and J. Schigh on a charge of breaking windows in the college building which resulted in no action on the part of the Faculty.

The Secretary is happy to record that his notes furnish no cases of discipline.

Two weeks since Mr. Wolf of the Senior class was acquitted of a charge of firing a cracker in the prayer hall during evening worship, the meeting was called immediately after the occurrence referred to; the Secretary's notes does not furnish its date.

No recitations were held on this day nor Christmas and the Faculty did not meet, it being understood that nothing was to be presented requiring immediate action.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Friday evening 3rd Jan
1840

The Faculty held an extraordinary meeting this evening to examine the case of Peter Stout and Jacob Heyser accused of being intoxicated on New Year's Day. They were both found guilty on sufficient evidence and the President was authorized to administer a public reprimand to the latter and address the students on the nature of the offence of Mr. Heyser.

In consequence of the extreme youth of P. Stout, he was punished differently on the recommendation of the President. He was to be confined a week without dinner and deprived of pocket money for all the rest of the session.

The Secretary was ordered to summon Mr. Orbison who had been absent several days without permission to meet the faculty next Wednesday.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 8th Jan. 1840

The Faculty met this evening but no formal resolutions were passed.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 15th Jan., 1840

The Faculty considered the case of Mr. Orbison of the preparatory department this afternoon who was charged with being absent several days on a visit to one of his relations in the neighborhood without permission. From the evidence it appeared to have originated by mistake and Mr. Orbison was dismissed with a slight reprimand and caution for the future. No other business.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

Wednesday 22 Jan.

Peter Stout was again called up charged with having gone to Greencastle without permission and getting intoxicated there with a company of lads from Town. Dr. Rauch stated that Mr. Stout had been placed under his particular care by his parents but having been deceived by him so frequently he was unwilling to continue responsible for his behavior any longer and it was agreed by the Faculty that a boy of his age upon whom moral restraints were so little binding would probably soon be ruined if allowed to continue in the course he had been pursuing for some time past. And it was therefore resolved to request his parents to remove him without delay.

No other business was done.

S. W. BUDD, JR.

21st May, 1840

The Secretary has taken the following memoranda of the transactions of the Faculty since the last record which he transcribes according to the direction of the Faculty leaving out unimportant details.

Until within a few days there has been no case of discipline of any importance. Mr. Heyser and Mr. Mish were at the last meeting but one of the Faculty, examined on the charge of having been intoxicated and having spirituous liquors in their rooms. The evidence was strong against both and particularly Jacob Heyser for the first charges; and as the confession of Henry Mish established his guilt of the second offense it was resolved that they should be suspended for two weeks and be sent home unless the President of the College should choose to require them to go somewhere else in the neighborhood.

When the Faculty first met the Building Committee they were requested by that Committee to consult upon such points of the plans spoken of as seemed of importance and submit their views at some subsequent meeting. The following ideas were accordingly agreed upon to be laid before the Building Committee and it may be proper to record that they acquiesced with great politeness and cordiality in their views expressed by the Faculty.

1st. That a building of moderate size and plainly finished with no useless ornament would best comport with the finances of the College.

2nd. That it might be built so as hereafter in case the number of students and the funds of the college justify it, to form the centre of three buildings and make a more picturesque assemblage.

3rd. That if the preparatory school is to be accomodated in the college edifice it should be only temporarily and with a view to its ultimate separate establishment.

The Building Committee not having entered into contract with any builder to erect the College according to the plan agreed upon it was resolved once more by the Faculty to state their preference of an early establishment of the preparatory school and delay of the college edifice unless the Trustees should order both to be proceeded with and the Secretary was directed to lay the matter before the Board.

Professor Smith mentioned to the President of the College his intention of resigning his place at the ensuing meeting of the Board. The Faculty in accordance with the frequently expressed wish of the members of the Board of Trustees and the Board formally resolved to seek a suitable person to fill the vacancy and recommend him, but up to the meeting on the 20th inst. had not succeeded. They therefore resolved to ask the Trustees for a committee of their body who should act upon the nomination of the Faculty as soon as a suitable candidate could be found.

The Secretary in view of the contemplated resignation of the assistant in the preparatory department was directed to ask in the name of the Faculty for a more permanent plan of instruction for that department, Viz. the appointment of one Teacher of greater experience and age with sufficient salary instead of two young men who could find it worth their while to remain in the institution only whilst pursuing theological studies. They recommended Mr. Fisher of Chambersburgh for the situation in case the Board approved the suggestion.

S. W. BUDD, JR.
Sect'y.

June 3rd 1840

Prof. Budd having resigned his Secretaryship A. S. Young was appointed in his place. No other business.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

* * * * *

July 29th, 1840

Mr. Schley was brought up for absenting himself from Mr. Goods recitations. The Faculty resolved that Mr. Schley should recite privately to Mr. Good all that the class recited since the time that he absented himself.

On action of Prof. Budd Mr. W. M. Nevin of Sewickley Pa was nominated as candidate for the Professorship of Languages & Belles Lettres

No other business of importance

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

December 1840

Mr. Meyers was brought up to account for his irregular attendance at recitations. Not being able to give a satisfactory account, the Faculty resolved that he be reprimanded and put on probation

No other business to record

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

Dec. 16th, 1840

A communication was received from the members of the Diagnothian Soc., requesting permission from the Faculty to hold a contest with the members of the G. S. Since no reasons were advanced in support of such a contest, the Faculty could not consistently grant their request.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

Dec. 24th, 1840

No business of importance

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

Jan 7th, 1841

No business to record

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y.*

Jan 9th, 1841

This morning the Faculty held a special meeting in consequence of the building of the Preparatory depart. having been destroyed by fire last night. It was resolved that a suitable building for the use of the Depart. be forthwith procured.

Nothing more of importance.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

* * * * *

Feb. 11th, 1841

Mr. Sweigart requested permission to be absent for the remainder of this session, stating that he was under the necessity of procuring means to enable him to prosecute his studies. This request was granted to him.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*.

Feb. 17th, 1841

No business to record.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

Feb. 25th, 1841

Mr. Gisinger obtained permission to be absent from College two or three weeks on account of ill health.

No other business.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

March 2nd, 1841

This morning a mournful event, the death of Dr. Rauch President of this Institution occasioned a special meeting of the Faculty. Dr. Nevin, who had been previously invited to attend this meeting being present on motion took the chair. The following resolutions were then adopted:

1. Resolved that we deeply deplore the loss this Institution has sustained in the removal of Dr. Rauch.
2. Resolved, that we sympathize with the bereaved widow in her sorrows and with all related to him by the ties of kindred.
3. Resolved that Dr. Nevin be requested to meet with the remaining members of the Faculty at their regular meetings, to the close of the session as the presiding officer.

4. Resolved that we will do all in our power to prevent any interruption in the regular exercises of the College.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

March 11th, 1841

No business to record

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

March 18th, 1841

No business of importance

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

April 22nd, 1841

Whereas the Board of Trustees have instructed the Faculty to appoint a Prof. of Nat. Science therefore the Faculty unanimously resolved that Dr. Green of Easton Pa. satisfactory recommendations of his qualifications having been given to the person to fill that chair.

Dr. Nevin was requested to inform Dr. Green of his appointment.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

* * * * *

June 14th, 1841

The Faculty resolved that the names of the absentees from prayers be read out publicly at the close of every week.

No more business of importance.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

June 21st, 1841

No business to record.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

June 28th, 1841

The members of the Diag. Soc., requested permission to celebrate their Anniversary on the 5th of July next, which request was granted.

The Faculty resolved to prepare and publish forthwith a catalogue of this Institution for the present year.

No more business of importance.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y.*

July 5th, 1841

No business to record.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y.*

July 12th, 1841

Rev. Mr. Jones met with the Faculty informing them that he had entered upon his duties in the Preparatory Department Mr. Jones was requested to present to the Faculty at their next regular meeting a report of the present condition of the Department.

Nothing more of importance.

A. S. YOUNG, *Sec'y*

* * * * *

Monday, Nov. 29th

Mr. Hanson was reprimanded for absence from Bible Class.

G. JONES, *Sec'y.*

Monday Nov. 15th

The Faculty held the first meeting for the Winter session this afternoon.

Mr. Firey after satisfactory examination was admitted into the Junior Class.

It was resolved that the students in addition to the customary attendance on Public worship in the prayer hall should be required to attend the Reformed Church on the Sabbath except in the case of such whose parents prefer their attendance at other churches in town. It was further resolved that they should occupy seats in the gallery and sit by classes.

The hours of morning prayer for the winter were fixed at ½ past 7

G. JONES, *Sec'y.*

Monday, Nov. 22nd.

Mr. Heister a former member of the Junior Class absent for a session on account of illness was readmitted to the same class.

Mr. Schell a member of the Junior Class and also absent for a session was readmitted without examinations on condition of being sent to a lower class should he be unable to sustain himself.

A petition was received from the Senior Class praying "that the Senior class be not obliged to recite Psychology in common with the Junior" and also requesting to be excused from the study of Latin. The former request was granted—the latter refused.

G. JONES, *Sec'y*

Dec. 25th.

Within the past months the Faculty held. . . . .

[*Minutes stop at this point.*]

[*The following documents are also contained in the faculty minute-book.*]

(1)

MARSHALL COLLEGE

Sept. 26th 1837

We the undersigned students in Marshall College have read and understood the Laws & Regulations as adopted by the Board of Trustees and solemnly promise to obey them.

Names	*Residence*
H. J. Brown	Lancaster, Pa.
E. V. Gerhart	Millersburg, Pa.
John Ziegler	Philada.
H. Rupley	Greencastle, Pa.
Moses Kieffer	Chambersburg
J. E. Houser	Bakersville, Md.
F. Johnson Boggs	Greencastle, Pa.
T. G. McCulloh	Chambersburg, Pa.
R. L. Dean	Mercersburg
Thos. R. Pomp	Easton, Pa.
R. P. Little	Mercersburg
G. W. Williard	Burkittsville, Md.
S. L. MiddleKauff	Hagerstown, Md.
M. Swartzwelder	Hagerstown, Md.
A. S. Young	Quakertown, Pa.
C. B. Ernst	Hanover, Pa.
G. W. Welker	Mercersburg, Pa.
H. D. Downey	Waynesboro
W. C. Walton	Mr. Wise Residence
D. Miller	Berkley Co., Va.
Jonathan Wolfersberger	Mercersburg
Vincent A. Butler	Shepherdstown, Va.
T. M. Cookus	Shepherdstown, Va.
J. Heyser	Chambersburg, Pa.
Jacob F. Welsh	Hanover, Pa.
G. D. Martin	Emmittsburg, Md.
William Philips	Hagerstown, Md.
Geor. Pearson	Upper Mt. Bethel, Pa.
Samuel Reid	Emmittsburg, Md.
Henry T. Hiester	Chester Co
John R. Kooken	Pine Grove Mills
John T. Dick	Mercersburgh
Henry Funk	Hagerstown
William Mayburry	Montgomery Co.
A. H. Kremer	York Co., Pa.
Daniel Kroh	Mercersburg
D. H. Linebach	Milton, Pa.

(Admitted November 1837 S. W. B. Jr.)

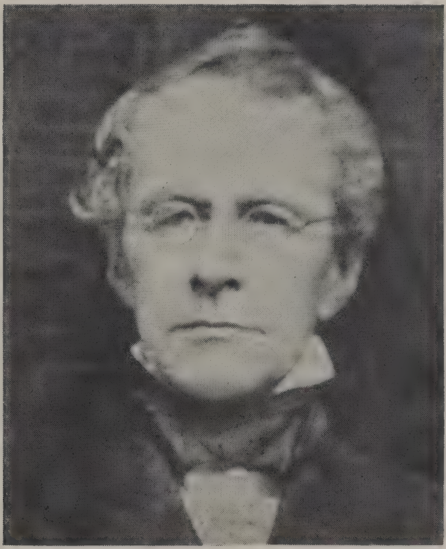
Edward Wetherill	Philadelphia
Charles H. Budd	Burlington Co., N. J.
Samuel Hotter	Emmittsburg, Md.
Geo. Strickland Jr.	Chester Co., Pa.
J. P. Hiester	Chester Co., Pa.
Joseph E. Lane	Clark Co., Va.
Henry A. Mish	Harrisburg, Pa.
John Miller Jr.	Sharpsburg Md.
William H. Grimes	Marshtonville, Md.
D. S. Spare	Montgomery Co., Pa.
C. H. Leinbach	Berks Co., Pa.
Henry Hoffman Jr.	Chester Co., Pa.
Jn. Ingold	Guilford County, N. C.

(2)

AVERAGE MARKS IN SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE FALL

1839

Freshman Class		Sophomore Class		Junior Class	
Cessna	3¾	Houser	2¼	Mayberry	3¾
J. Good	3¾	Funk	2½	Wolff	3⅓
Rinker	3	Ingold	2½	Heyser	2½
Hammond	2	Rupley	2⅔	Hoffius	3
Hoffman	2¾	Strickland	3¼	Hoffeditz	3
Vandyke	2¼	C. Linebach	2½		
Mish	2¾	Ernst	2¼		
Brewer	2¾	Chambers	3		
Diffenderfer	2½	Reynolds	3¼		
R. Good	3¼	Hartley	3⅓		
Stehley	3½	B. Linebach	1½		
Reber	2¾				



JOHN WILLIAMSON NEVIN, D.D., LL.D.
Second President of Marshall College, 1841–1853

CHAPTER X

Dr. John W. Nevin

DR. LEWIS MAYER, the senior professor in the Theological Seminary, who had served with Dr. Rauch as colleague in preparing young men for the Christian ministry, intimated to the synod at its meeting in Philadelphia in 1839 that he intended to resign his professorship and asked the body to afford him an opportunity to make some statements to which he attached much importance. The discussion that followed took such a turn as to involve matters of a private nature, and Synod deemed it expedient to resolve to sit with closed doors until the subject under consideration was disposed of. Dr. Mayer's resignation was considered and accepted, and the thanks of the synod were unanimously voted him for the faithful and valuable services which he had rendered the church as professor of theology.[1]

At best, Dr. Mayer's stay in Mercersburg was very brief. "On account of physical disability and doctrinal difficulties which sprung up in the Seminary,"[2] he returned to York and resumed his literary work.

The Rev. J. C. Becker, of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was elected to fill the chair vacated by Dr. Mayer. He declined the appointment. Then the Synod elected the Rev. Albert Helfenstein of Hagerstown, Maryland, who also declined. The church was in confusion and despair, and called a general convention to meet in Chambersburg to settle this knotty question. It was then that a young pastor of considerable insight and initiative, the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, saw the wisdom of securing a leader from some other branch of the Christian church. He suggested the name of Dr. John

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[1] Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of Philadelphia, 1839.

[2] Appel, *Recollections of College Life,* p. 87.

W. Nevin, who had just resigned his professorship of theology in Western Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church in Allegheny, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Nevin at first felt that he must decline granting permission to have his name presented to the synod for the vacancy at Mercersburg. But when the convention met at Chambersburg, Mr. Fisher proposed Dr. Nevin's name and insisted that "if we can satisfy him that it is his duty to take charge of the professorship at Mercersburg, nothing can prevent him from doing so."[3] The result was that Dr. Nevin was unanimously elected to fill the position made vacant by Dr. Lewis Mayer.

Then an old man, Dr. B. S. Schneck, editor of the *Weekly Messenger,* and a young man, the Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, crossed the Alleghenies in mid-winter, "partly in open sleds and partly on boards fastened on the running gear of a stage coach,"[4] visited Dr. Nevin in Allegheny City and persuaded him that it was his duty to accept the call to Mercersburg.

The daring inspiration of Samuel R. Fisher gave to the church and to the Mercersburg institutions a remarkable man —a scholar and a leader.

In his autobiography, published under the title *My Own Life,*[5] Dr. Nevin gives us a modest and accurate account of his antecedents and early life. His forebears were Scotch-Irish settlers in the Cumberland Valley. Through his mother, whose name had been Margaret Williamson, he was closely connected with the revolutionary fathers and the framers of the Constitution of the United States. His father was a graduate of Dickinson College in 1795, and later became a trustee of that institution. Through the death of an uncle, Captain John Williamson, a merchant from South Carolina, the Nevin family inherited a vast tract of land in the West. Two members of the family became closely associated with the educational institutions at Mercersburg: William M. Nevin, a professor in Marshall College and later in Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, from 1840 to 1892; and John Williamson Nevin, the eldest in the family and the subject of this chapter, who was born on Herron's Branch, near Shippensburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, on February 20, 1803. He spent his early years on a farm, where his father prepared him for college. At the age of fourteen he entered Union College in the state of New York, which at that time had Dr. Nott as its presiding genius. The boy graduated with honors in 1821 and returned to his father's farm for two years to recover his health. Then he went to Princeton to study theology, and found his days there the most pleasant part of his life. He became especially interested in Oriental and Biblical literature and was the best Hebrew scholar in his class. He taught in Princeton Seminary for more than a year, taking the place of Dr. Hodge, who had gone to Europe to study in some of the leading German universities.

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[3] Appel, Theodore. *The Life of John W. Nevin.* Philadelphia, 1889, p. 95

[4] *Ibid.,* p. 95.

[5] Published serially in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* March to June 1870.

Dr. Nevin was then called, at the age of twenty-seven, to the chair of Biblical Literature in the Western Theological Seminary, a new institution that at that time was without buildings, library, or endowment. "There he remained ten years, teaching, preaching, writing, publishing; braving opposition from those who resented his vigorous expressions against infidelity, intemperance, irreligious amusements, slavery, and the degenerate drama, with all the inflexibility and heroism of the boldest modern reformer. He was the outspoken, unreserved opponent of slavery."[6]

Meanwhile he wrote his book on *Biblical Antiquities*, which was widely circulated.

On January 1, 1840, Dr. Nevin was married to Martha J. Jenkins, the daughter of a well-known iron-master of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She was a woman of great personal refinement, well versed in literature, and was an indispensable aid to him in the important positions in the educational and religious world which he was later to occupy.

[6] William M. Deatrick's article in Heisler, B. Y.: *The Fathers of the Reformed Church*, vol. VI, p. 326.

The children of the Nevin family were seven in number, four sons and three daughters. The five who survived their father were all prominent in different spheres of life, social, literary, and artistic. Captain W. Wilberforce Nevin was engaged in railroad enterprise; Dr. Robert J. Nevin was commander during the War of the Rebellion of the famous "Nevin Battery," and later became rector of Saint Paul's Within-the-Walls Protestant Episcopal Church in Rome, Italy; Miss Alice Nevin became a well-known writer of hymns and musical compositions; Miss Blanche Nevin was a sculptress and artist, her best-known work being the statue of General Peter Muhlenberg in the Capitol at Washington, D. C.; and Martha J. Nevin was the wife of Robert W. Sayre of the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

Dr. Nevin was thirty-seven years of age when he went to Mercersburg. Just before going, a strange transformation in his religious point of view had taken place. He became intensely interested in the English High Church Tractarian Movement. He describes the occasion of this personal change of thought in his autobiography:

"And yet my first glimpse, perhaps, of what the church spirit really means, came on me unexpectedly from looking into a volume of the Oxford Tracts, which a friend had bought, found to be dry and tiresome reading, and then passed as a psychological curiosity into my hands. I was not converted in any sense to the views of the book. But I saw (what I had not believed before) that there was deep intelligent conviction at work in the Oxford movement; that the men concerned in it were neither fools, nor visionaries, nor hypocrites; and there flashed upon me, at the same time, some sense of the profoundly earnest religious problem, which they were wrestling with, and in their way endeavoring to solve. That was all. But where I then stood, in the way of seed-thought, this was much."[7]

On March 18, 1840, he wrote his letter of acceptance to the new position offered to him in Mercersburg:

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[7] Nevin, John W. "My Own Life." *Reformed Church Messenger*, June 15, 1870.

Alleghany, March 5, 1840.

Rev. B. S. Schneck:—

I am prepared at length to say, that I accept the CALL, put into my hands by the Rev. Mr. Fisher and yourself, by which I have been invited on the part of the Synod of the German Reformed Church to the Professorship of Theology in the Seminary at Mercersburg. This notice is communicated to you now as the President of the Synod for the present year. It is my intention to apply for a dismission from the Presbytery to which I now belong, at its regular meeting in April, with the view of passing into the bosom of the German Ref. Church. I shall be ready afterwards, with divine permission, to enter on my new office about the beginning of June.

Allow me, through you, to express to the German Reformed Synod, my high sense of the honor they have conferred upon me, in thus electing me, with one heart and voice, to a station so important and responsible. My inmost prayer is, that I may not be found in the end unworthy altogether of such confidence.

At the same time I must say that I have had great difficulty, in making up my mind to accept the appointment. The question has seemed to me to involve the main crisis, of my ministry at least, if not of my life. I have found much round me, and much within me, to resist the call. Other ties and claims, ecclesiastical and social, have pleaded against it strongly in my spirit. The greatness of the trust, and the difficulties that must necessarily be connected with it, have alarmed me. The idea of passing into new and untried church relations, the fear of disappointing expectations, vague apprehensions of collision and obstruction in the midst of the new order of things, the new moral system, with which I must find myself surrounded on entering into the German communion—have all contributed to invest the step with a painfully solemn interest to my feelings, and to hold my thoughts in anxious suspense with regard to the expediency of listening to such a call.

But these difficulties have been made to yield, in the end, to the persuasion that I am called of God to go to Mercersburg. The indications of his will in the case have seemed to me too clear and striking, to be misinterpreted or disregarded. In view of all the circumstances of the question, I have felt that it is my DUTY to obey the voice of your Synod. I *dare* not, for the sake of my own peace, turn away my ears from the application. The field is immensely important, and at the same time full of promise. The necessity is great. The time is critical. The call has been strange and unexpected, not only without my seeking, but *against* my own judgment and wish, explicitly expressed and fully understood. It is the unanimous and hearty call, as it would seem, of the whole church. My own training might appear to have been providentially ordered, by Him who leadeth the blind in a way not understood of themselves, with special reference to this very destination. Though not a German by birth, I feel a sort of *kindred* interest in that people which could hardly be stronger were I one of themselves. My childhood and early youth were spent in close familiar communion, with German manners and German modes of thought. The social state, that served as an educational mould for my spirit in its softest age, was characteristically German. I understand the people well, on this account. In later life my attention has been drawn to their Language and Literature. These have awakened a new interest in their favor, and brought me into a still more extensive fellowship with the peculiarities of the national mind. All this enters as an element into the constitution of the *call,* by which I find myself now bound to go into your church. The whole case is strengthened by the fact, that others whose judgement I ought to respect, so generally admit the weight of the considerations by which I am urged to the step. Even those who seem most desirous that I should stay where I am, would shrink, I imagine, from the responsibility of exercising a *veto* in the case, if it were altogether in their own hands; and it is my confident hope, that the step I am about to take, in quitting my own church for yours, will commend itself to others as well as myself, in such a way that all will consider it right in the end.

Thus do I find myself constrained to go into the German Reformed Church. Let it not be thought however that I go reluctantly or coldly into her communion, now that the point of duty is settled. I go indeed with fear and trembling; but I carry along with me my entire will. I give myself over wholly to the German Reformed Church, and find no difficulty whatever in making her interests my own. No church can boast a purer creed, or a better ecclesiastical framework. Her fathers rank high in the history of the Reformation. The spirit of a time-hallowed faith (such as could once make Martyrs) older than the Presbyterianism of Scotland, is still enshrined in her articles and forms. And the German church in this country, too, has now become a rising interest. No section of our American Zion is more important. None embraces vaster resources of power, in proportion to its limits. None exhibits a richer intellectual ore, available in the same way for the purposes of religion. I find no lack of considerations here, to enlist my sympathies and stimulate my zeal. I can go heartily and fully into such a church; and in this spirit I now accept the call of your Synod to the Professorship at Mercersburg.

Yours in the Gospel,

JOHN W. NEVIN.[8]

Shortly after this letter was sent, he was on his way east, with his family. He stopped at Chambersburg overnight, and felt at home in returning to the Cumberland Valley, where he had spent his boyhood days.

His first meeting with Dr. Rauch, at North Cottage, where he was a guest until arrangements could be made in the newly constructed South Cottage for his accommodation, was later described by both men in glowing terms. Dr. Rauch, being the only professor in the Seminary, was longing for intellectual companionship. Dr. Nevin, though a Scotchman, had developed a great interest in German thought. He said, "I found myself attracted to Dr. Rauch from the very first. His countenance was the index of his heart, open, generous, pure. I could not but look on it as a strange phenomenon that

[8] *Reformed Church Messenger,* March 18, 1840.

here at the head of this infant college, one of the finest minds of Germany should have been settled, which under other circumstances might well have been counted an ornament to the oldest and most conspicuous institution in the land."[9]

On the other hand, Dr. Rauch was delighted to meet with an earnest and profound thinker, and said, "Now with Dr. Nevin at my side, I am able to breathe freely for the first time in America."[10]

Dr. Nevin's appearance at this time can perhaps be judged by the very excellent portrait of him painted by Jacob Eichholtz and later beautifully engraved on steel by J. Sartain, two of the most distinguished artists in the country. He had black hair, piercing eyes and deep lines of thought on his face, and a dignified, reserved manner.

At the opening of the summer session of Marshall College and of the Theological Seminary on May 20, 1840 Dr. Nevin was inducted into the office of Professor of Theology, and delivered his inaugural address. The scene is described by a witness:

"Although the day was exceedingly unpleasant, and prevented hundreds from being present, yet a large and respectable number of our ministers, members and friends from a distance were in attendance—a larger number than we have seen in Mercersburg; we believe, on any former occasion. At the appointed hour the solemn peals of the Church-going bell invited us to the sanctuary. The rain poured down with increasing violence, but it could not cool the interest of those, who had come many miles to be witnesses of such a solemn transaction."[11]

Dr. Nevin dwelt at length in his inaugural address on the necessity for a faithful and well qualified ministry. The address was afterwards published as a pamphlet and widely circulated.

[9] Dr. Nevin's eulogy on "The Life and Character of F. A. Rauch," delivered on the occasion of Rauch's reinterment in Lancaster, Penna., March 7, 1859.

[10] Appel. *The Life of John W. Nevin,* p. 102.

[11] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 27, 1840.

The Classis of Maryland received Dr. Nevin as one of its members, and declared that they regarded his coming as a special interposition of divine providence. At the same time, the Classis laid plans for a Centenary Celebration of the founding of the Reformed Church in this country, to be held in 1841, the purpose of which was that the church should make a thank-offering of $100,000 for its educational institutions at Mercersburg, one-half of which was to be given to the college, one-fourth to the seminary, and one-fourth to beneficiary education. The Reverend Bernard C. Wolff of Easton, Pennsylvania was given a leave of absence from his pastorate to organize the new movement.

The entrance of Dr. Nevin into the life of the educational institutions at Mercersburg and into the wider work of the Reformed Church was dynamic, almost electric. It stirred the whole life of the church, and set every wheel in motion. The vigor of his writings was felt in every congregation and community. His sentences were like clarion calls to action.

During his first year, at the end of the summer session, Dr. Nevin travelled widely throughout the church in the region between the Delaware and the Susquehanna. His companion of these trips was the Rev. Jacob Mayer, pastor of Mercersburg.

Everywhere Dr. Nevin and his companion spoke in the interest of the Centenary Celebration and the educational institutions at Mercersburg, and were remarkably successful in their efforts. The chief difficulty was—as it was later discovered—that most of the money that was given to the Centenary fund was given for scholarships in the college. The result was that within a few years almost all the students were on scholarship and there was not sufficient steady income from tuition to continue the college on its early scale.

Just as the Centenary movement, which was to inaugurate a new and more prosperous era for the institutions at Mercersburg, had been fairly launched, there came the unfortunate death of Dr. Rauch, at the very time when he seemed ready to begin the great work of his life.

Dr. Nevin had been chosen President of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College at their meeting on September 29, 1840, upon the resignation of Colonel Daniel Schnebly. Two days after Dr. Rauch's death the trustees met at the home of Dr. Nevin to formulate a tribute of respect to the first president of the college. Within a month (April 6, 1841) they named Dr. Nevin president pro tem of the college, to hold office until a successor could be appointed. The result was that Dr. Nevin remained the head of the college until 1853. He declined any compensation for his work as President of the College. He considered himself under the control of the synod of the church, and accepted the responsibility of the presidency only after a committee of the Board of Trustees had asked the synod for the privilege of having his services until a successor could be obtained. As compensation for his services Dr. Nevin was given several scholarships in Marshall College.

At one point in the minutes of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College we find the following action: "In view of the gratuitous services rendered by Dr. Nevin to Marshall College, and of his relation to the Seminary and the College, be it

"Resolved, That the College give the Theological Seminary credit in the sum of $1,000 on the note which the College at present holds against the Seminary."[12]

At the same meeting the Rev. Dr. Nevin announced his intention of withdrawing from the presidency of Marshall College as soon as the Board should find it convenient to fill his place. By this time the trustees had decided to move the college to Lancaster. Dr. Nevin informed them distinctly of his intention of not accompanying it. He was granted the use of the house he occupied without rent for at least a year, from April 1, 1853.[13]

Thus we see that for thirteen years, in the very prime of his life, Dr. Nevin devoted his energies to the theological and

[12] Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, under date of September 7, 1852. In Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

[13] *Ibid.*, March 22, 1853.

literary institutions at Mercersburg. When Marshall College was removed to Lancaster, Dr. Nevin retired from active service for several years, spending his time at Carlisle, Windsor Forge, and Caernarvon Place. In 1861 he was called by the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College to fill the chair of philosophy in that institution. He became president of Franklin and Marshall in 1866 and served for ten years. During the last ten years of his life Dr. Nevin lived at Caernarvon Place, in Lancaster, not far from Wheatland, the home of James Buchanan. "Wheatland was near the college buildings and Mr. Buchanan frequently attended divine service in the college chapel, especially when Dr. Nevin occupied the pulpit. Caernarvon Place was so close to Mr. Buchanan's residence that the two families were quite intimate with each other, the ladies, including Miss Harriet Lane, often crossing the fields and the fences to see each other instead of taking a longer route by the public road."[14] Dr. Nevin died in Lancaster June 6, 1886, at the age of eighty-three, and was buried in Woodward Hill Cemetery, near the tomb of Buchanan.

Dr. Nevin was a fluent and forceful writer. Shortly after coming to Mercersburg he published a series of articles in the *Messenger* on "Worldly-Mindedness." Then he became the champion of the centenary movement in a number of columns written for the church papers. He was deeply interested in the history of the Reformed Church and wanted the centenary celebration of 1841 to have real historic significance. Accordingly, he wrote a series of articles on "The History and Genius of the Heidelberg Catechism," which afterward appeared in book form. But some of these writings by Dr. Nevin were not acceptable to certain members of the clergy, and before he realized what had happened he found himself involved in a heresy trial and a series of theological controversies that called forth many of his most brilliant polemics but surely must have taken much of his energy from the more immediate task of building up and maintaining Marshall College. True, the friends of the college became more intensely

[14] Appel. *Life of John W. Nevin,* p. 601.

loyal as the controversies grew more heated, but those that differed from Dr. Nevin's views became more lukewarm in their interest in both the college and the seminary.

Out of these theological disputes, which revolved around the question of the prerogative and unity of the Christian church, came the rise and development of what was known as the "Mercersburg theology," to which Dr. Rauch had given the philosophical impulse, Dr. Schaff the historical basis, and Dr. Nevin the theological vitality. The Mercersburg theology represented a distinct movement in the history of American religious thought, the significance of which is recognized by every interpreter of American church history. It might be compared to similar tendencies current in England at about the same time due to the work and thought of John Henry Newman and his followers, although Dr. Nevin constantly aimed to show that the Oxford theory was historically untenable. "The Mercersburg theology grew out of the contact between the evangelical theology of Germany and Anglo-American church life. The movement had three phases: the first was philosophical (1836–1843); the second was theological, and turned chiefly on the church question (1843–1848); the third was liturgical (1858–1867). The man who gave the initial impulse to this school of thought was Rev. F. A. Rauch, who conceived the purpose of uniting the best qualities of the German and Scotch systems of thought in an Anglo-German philosophy. Rauch, Nevin, and Schaff were alike conversant with philosophy and theology. Rauch excelled chiefly in philosophy, Nevin in theology, while Schaff was by predilection a church historian. Complementing each other reciprocally, these three scholars developed the ideas of Mercersburg theology in different ways."[15]

The points which were at issue in the controversy were not local in character but rather universal, and the influence of the discussion was intercontinental. One might speak of the six points of the Mercersburg theology, as follows:

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[15] Schaff, Philip, ed. *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge.* New York, 1891. Art. by Dr. E. V. Gerhart, p. 1474.

1. The Christ-idea as a fundamental principle.
2. The nature and unity of the church.
3. The spiritual dignity of the ministry.
4. The significance of the sacrament.
5. The principle of liturgical worship.
6. The Christian teaching of youth.

All these features were logically connected with the idea that Jesus Christ was the sum and substance of Christianity.

After 1842 practically all the writings of Dr. Nevin helped in the development of these ideas. He published the *Mystical Presence* in 1846, a work that received favorable notice in Europe and America but drew him into controversy with his former teacher, Dr. Hodge of Princeton Seminary.

The writing of the pamphlet known as *The Anxious Bench* came as the result of a dispute in the local church at Mercersburg, caused by the "new measures" of the Rev. William Ramsey, pastor-elect. This tract for the times received widespread attention and helped to shape the methods of church life in more than one denomination, for Dr. Nevin wrote so clearly and forcefully that the things he said were sure to command attention.

Many of his articles appeared in the *Mercersburg Review,* the first number of which was issued in January 1849. This review, published for three quarters of a century with slight changes in name, was one of the truly influential channels of thought in America in the second half of the nineteenth century. It was a literary and theological journal, published quarterly in the name and by the authority of the alumni of Marshall College. "It proposes," said its prospectus, "to represent in philosophy and religion, the system of thinking which had come to be identified extensively in this country with the institutions at Mercersburg, though a far wider and higher force in fact on both sides of the Atlantic. It lies in its conception that the *Mercersburg Review* will bear no strictly denominational character."[16]

Dr. Nevin called the *Review* "a publication under the general banner displayed at Mercersburg," and wrote the opening article on "The Year 1848—a Year of Revolution and Change." In the same number he wrote also the leading book review, on "True and False Protestantism," which was in fact a sane, calm, and favorable estimate of Dr. Schaff's *Principle of Protestanism.* Up to the time of his death Dr. Nevin had written forty-one articles for the *Mercersburg Review* and—as it was later known—the *Reformed Church Review.*

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[16] *Mercersburg Review,* vol. 1, no. 1, January, 1849, p. 7.

Dr. Nevin was the idol of his students. He was at Mercersburg just about the time Carlyle's lectures on "Heroes and Hero Worship" reached this country. The students of Dr. Nevin never doubted that he was "easily the profoundest theologian, philosopher, and general scholar of the age."[17] Anyone who has ever spoken with any of the students who sat under Dr. Nevin has been impressed with the wonderful hold that he seemed to have upon the respect and admiration of those whom he taught. The same is true of his colleagues, as the high tributes of Dr. Rauch, Dr. Schaff, Dr. Theodore Appel, and others testify. Dr. Benjamin Bausman, in speaking to the Reformed Ministerium of Reading, Pennsylvania shortly before his death, gave his impressions of Dr. Nevin's attitude toward the students:

> "His primary aim was to teach students to think; merely storing the mind with undigested facts was not sufficient. His lectures were often beyond our grasp. I usually took notes at church. Afterward I rewrote them in more extended form. This process of elaboration in my mental crucible was a healthful discipline and an aid in mastering the subject more fully.
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> "The two societies in a joint meeting got into a furious quarrel. All were on their feet and blood was about to be drawn when Dr. Nevin opened the door and we heard the shout, 'Order.' The explosion of a bomb could not have been more effective. With a wave of his hand toward the open door he filed them out without another word. And a sheepish looking lot of harmless sheep they were. You wild Diags still scornfully call us 'the pious Goetheans.'

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[17] Russell, G. B. *Four Score and More. Philadelphia,* 1908, p. 88.

"At a certain meeting a set of members were to be tried for drunkenness. The culprits appeared before the court armed with clubs and fired with liquor. To avoid bloodshed the Doctor was called in. Instead of severely reprimanding the guilty parties, he appealed to the sense of manly self respect in us all. I now see that he understood the case better than we did.

"He addressed the students one day on an important subject. Like some of the rest of us, one of his juvenile declamations was the lines, 'You'd scarce expect one of my age,' etc. This piece had remained latent in his memory for fifty years. Unwittingly he began his address with his full solemn tone of voice, 'You'd scarce expect one of my age,' when we broke out in uncontrollable laughter, as only students can laugh. Without using the second line, he joined in the boisterous merriment at his own expense. He had a keen sense of humor. His laughter seldom found audible expression, however. When greatly amused the corners of his mouth twitched, and a half audible sound would be heard. Arnold Brooks, Col. Murphy's negro porter, who overheard his passenger student speaking about Dr. Nevin's assailants, remarked one day, 'No use, sah, no use; dat three-story head of Dr. Nevin's is more than a match for all of them.'"[18]

Dr. Nevin was a typical example of the old-fashioned college president and professor at his best. He appeared dignified and stern, but at heart he was indeed the guide, philosopher and friend of his students. He was genial and kind. He could greet the most backward and awkward student with a welcoming smile, and he could laugh too, but that was seldom. He had one pet abhorrence, and the students knew it. He did not like whistling students. That fact makes the following anecdote, told by a man who afterwards became one of the presidents of Mercersburg College, all the more worth reading:

"Time and again, in the Prayer Hall and elsewhere, he lectured the boys on the subject, telling them that whistling is a sure evidence of an empty brain, and that no true gentleman indulges in the habit. The negro boy on the street may excel in the art, but students should set before them nobler examples after which to pattern.

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[18] Quoted by Ranck, Henry H. *The Life of the Rev. Benjamin Bausman.* Philadelphia, 1912, p. 61.

"And yet, notwithstanding the Doctor's well-known antipathy to whistling, a habit that he utterly detested, four of his boys,—as he was pleased to call the students—succeeded in getting him to whistle for them one night about ten o'clock. Briefly the circumstances were as follows:

"Rev. Dr. H. W. Super, of Ursinus College, Rev. H. Heckerman, Andrew M. Spangler, Esq., of Philadelphia, and the writer concluded to serenade the Doctor. The Doctor then occupied the Professor's House south of the Seminary Building. When our arrangements were completed, with instruments in hand, and no little trepidation in heart, we wended our way to the Doctor's home. He had not yet retired. Taking our position beneath his study window we played several *choice* airs, so *choice* in fact that the Doctor came to the door, thanked us for the honor, and complimented us on the skill displayed in handling our instruments. Emboldened by these kind words, we played several additional pieces, the interval between them being filled up with conversation on the subject of music. At last the Doctor said: 'There is still one piece I would very much like to hear you play.' We replied that we would be pleased to play for him any piece with which we were familiar, and requested him to name the piece to which he referred. 'That is the difficulty,' said the Doctor,—'I don't know the name. I sometimes hear the boys whistling it on the streets.' One of our number, A. M. Spangler, if I mistake not, ventured the remark, 'Doctor if you will please give us some idea of the air, we may possibly recognize it, and will cheerfully play it for you if we can.' *Then* and *there* the Doctor whistled the tune *in part*. And what do you suppose was the tune? Yankee Doodle. We of course played it.

"A few years before his death the writer spent a night with the Doctor in his hospitable home near Lancaster. In talking over the reminiscences of Marshall College, I related to him the above incident. Never did I hear the Doctor nor his estimable wife laugh more heartily than they did over the fact that a few of his 'boys' succeded in getting him to whistle." [19]

Dr. Nevin brought to the institutions at Mercersburg a strong mind and a truly Christian spirit. In the Department of Moral Philosophy he imbued the minds of the students with a sense of respect for the moral law. His lectures in ethics were delivered to the students as the sublime finale of the college course. As a disciplinarian he was vigorous with himself but considerate of others. After the students left his classroom and established homes of their own, scores of them named their first-born sons after him. For at least two generations the name "Nevin" became the most popular Christian name in the homes of ministers and other professional men in a goodly portion of Pennsylvania. To this day the names of Mercersburg and of Dr. John W. Nevin are so closely linked together that one cannot think of the one without being reminded of the other.

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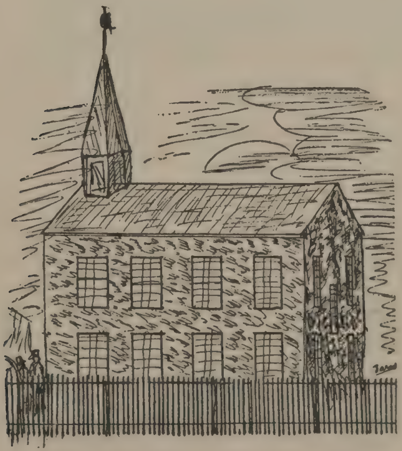
[19] George W. Aughinbaugh in the *Mercersburg College Monthly,* vol. 1, no. 3, March, 1889.



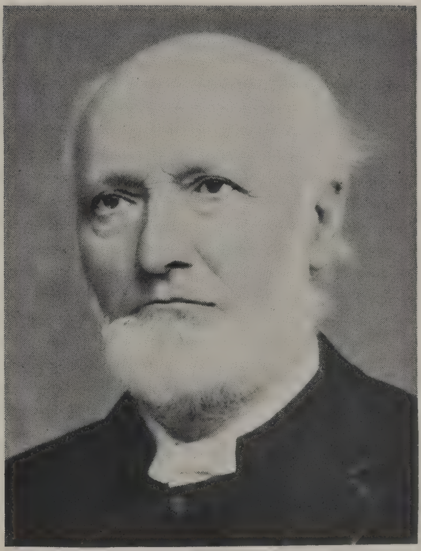
THE OLD PREPARATORY IN 1840
Sketched by a Student

CHAPTER XI

Dr. Philip Schaff

WITH the names of Frederick Augustus Rauch and John Williamson Nevin in Mercersburg is associated naturally the name of Philip Schaff. These three men had certain ideals in common, although personally they were very different. Dr. Rauch represented Germany; Dr. Nevin was Scotch-Irish; Dr. Philip Schaff was "a Swiss by birth, a German by education, and an American by choice." Dr. Rauch spent six years in Mercersburg, Dr. Nevin thirteen, and Dr. Schaff almost twenty. All three of them were ministers and teachers. They came to Mercersburg as young men and gave the best years of their life to the work of the educational institutions there. Dr. Rauch was a philosopher, Dr. Nevin a theologian, and Dr. Schaff a church historian. Dr. Nevin knew Dr. Rauch for only a year; Dr. Schaff never met Dr. Rauch but was the intimate colleague and associate of Dr. Nevin for a decade. As the coming of Dr. Nevin had given a new impulse to the life of Marshall College, so the addition of Dr. Schaff to the faculty helped to bring the Theological Seminary into the mid-current of academic interest on both sides of the Atlantic.

After the death of Dr. Rauch in 1841 a large part of the work at Marshall College and the whole burden of teaching in the Theological Seminary practically fell on the shoulders of Dr. Nevin. The church felt that it was highly necessary to procure someone to help Dr. Nevin in his double task. The financial difficulties of the institutions had been temporarily removed by the gifts resulting from the efforts made in connection with the centennial year. There was a general feeling that the new man should be brought from Europe, as Dr. Rauch had been, in order to strengthen the union between



Dr. Philip Schaff
1844–1864

the churches in the old world and those in the new. So great was the confidence of the church at the time that they decided to bring to Mercersburg the greatest pulpit orator of Germany, Dr. Frederick Krummacher, whose sermons had been translated and widely distributed in England and America. In reply to a private letter, Dr. Krummacher remarked "that he could never have supposed that the Lord had any specific work for him to do in this Western Land; but that if such should be the case, and the Lord should in His providence seem to say, 'Get thee out of thy country,' or 'Launch out into the deep,' he would then feel that there was nothing left for him to do but to comply with the divine command."[1]

The synod immediately elected him and sent a delegation of two ministers, the Rev. Benjamin S. Schneck of Chambersburg and the Rev. Theodore L. Hoffeditz of Northampton County, to personally present the call to the professorship to Dr. Krummacher. After considerable hesitation Dr. Krummacher declined the offer. One of the delegates, Dr. Schneck, reported that "the great difficulty with Dr. Krummacher seems to be that his calling is emphatically to be a preacher rather than to be a professor, that so soon as he should cease to be a pastor he would cease to be a writer, too, inasmuch as he can only write after he has first preached."[2]

The mission of these two men attracted a great deal of attention in Europe. The King of Prussia granted them an interview in Berlin and gave them a donation of 1500 thalers for the institutions at Mercersburg. Dr. Krummacher referred to this in one of his published articles: "It cannot but be exceedingly interesting to learn that the American delegation were not only kindly received and the objects of their mission furthered by Christians of all ranks and classes; but also that His Majesty, our beloved King, Frederick William IV, and his royal consort the Queen, were pleased on several occasions to receive and treat them in the most kind and flattering manner, and to express the most lively interest towards them in behalf of their church and her institutions."[3]

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[1] Quoted in the *Reformed Church Messenger,* November 29, 1843.

[2] *Ibid.,* September 20, 1843.

Upon further inquiry the delegates found that every recommendation for a substitute for Dr. Krummacher as a successor to Dr. Rauch seemed to turn toward a brilliant young Swiss professor by the name of Philip Schaff.

Prof. Schaff was not yet twenty-five years of age, having been born on New Year's Day, 1819, at Chur in the canton of Graubündten, of parents in humble circumstances. He was a true Swiss, always believing that Switzerland was the freest country in Europe and the most beautiful in the world, and then supplementing it by a statement that America was an extended Switzerland. At the age of fifteen he entered the boys' academy in Kornthal, Würtemburg, seven miles from Stuttgart, where he afterwards attended the gymnasium. Here he received a thorough foundation in the ancient languages and made friendships which remained sacred throughout his life. At eighteen he entered the university at Tübingen, during a period of intense theological tumult into which he plunged with all the zest of an eager young scholar. The academic controversies brought him into personal contact with the real leaders of opinion in Europe at that time, especially with Dr. Neander, the church historian, from whom he gained his first idea of historical development in the Christian church, a concept which later brought him into many difficulties, including a heresy trial, on the American continent.

In the three universities, including Halle and Berlin, which Philip Schaff attended as a student, he was thrown into association with and brought under the influence of the men who held the leading positions in the theological world of their time. The University of Berlin was then the leader among the twenty-two universities of Germany in the field of church history, as the names of Neander, Ranke, and Karl Ritter testify. Prof. Schaff became the favorite student of Dr. Neander and served as his amanuensis. A chance for travel came to the young student when he was given the opportunity of becoming tutor and companion to the son of the Baroness von Kröcher. The journeys through southern Europe, especially in Italy and Sicily, proved to be a lifelong inspiration for historic study. Upon his return at the age of twenty-three Dr. Schaff began lecturing as a *privat-docent* in Berlin. At this period he was brought into fellowship with the wider circles of university life. His most intimate friend was Frédéric Godet of Neuchatel, through whom he became interested in French Christianity.

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[3] *Palmblätter Herausgegeben von Friedrich Wilhelm Krummacher,* Elberfeldt, August, 1843, p. 42.

The young Dr. Schaff, whose first ambition in life had been to be a soldier and then to be a poet, at the age of twenty-four, due partly to his early Swiss training and partly to his studies in church history and theology and partly again to his associations with men like Neander and Godet, Tholuck and Julius Müller, decided to enter the ministry. It was at this time, in July 1843, that the two American clergymen, Dr. Schneck and Dr. Hoffeditz, met Dr. Schaff in his study and practically on their own responsibility placed a call to the professorship at Mercersburg into his hands. When they returned to America these two delegates brought with them the following testimonials from three of the leading professors of theological thought in Europe:

(1)

Most cheerfully and with the fullest confidence do I hereby give Mr. Schaf (formerly a student in Halle, where he became more fully known to me) the testimony, that he is a young theologian of living piety as well as of scientific abilities, from whose future sphere the most promising results may be expected.

DR. A. THOLUCK,
Professor.

Halle, August 15, 1843.

(2)

Upon an acquaintance dating back as far as his course in the university, I can testify for Mr. Schaf, that in view of the depth and earnestness of his evangelical Christian character, as well as his excellent talent and extensive theological attainments, of which he has given acknowledged evidences, both as a theological writer as well as lecturer in the University of Berlin, I consider him in an especial manner well qualified as a professor of theology, and more particularly in the departments of Exegesis of the New Testament, Historical and Systematic Divinity, and that I expect from his labors in this sphere, the most blessed fruits.

J. MÜLLER,
Dr. and Prof.

Halle, August 16, 1843.

(3)

After mature deliberation, I believe that among all the young theologians who might come under consideration for the vacant professorship in the Theological Seminary in the German Reformed Church in the United States, Mr. Schaf is the one best adapted for the station. He possesses a serious, Christian character—much activity of mind—and the happy faculty of attaching young men to himself. His youth might by some be deemed objectionable; but older persons of ability here, are already permanently settled, none of whom would probably forsake their situations, and then it is questionable, whether such a one would feel himself at home in such entirely new relations and circumstances.

E. W. HENGSTENBERG,
Dr. and Prof.

Berlin, August 14, 1843.[4]

When the two delegates returned from Europe they found the synod of the church in session at Winchester, Virginia, during October 1843. They were delighted with the ready response that followed their report and the reading of the testimonials relating to Dr. Schaff. By unanimous vote the synod extended a call to the young European professor:

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[4] All three letters are reprinted in the *Reformed Church Messenger*, November 29, 1843.

TO THE REV. PHILIP SCHAF, D.PH., OF BERLIN IN PRUSSIA.

Beloved Brother in the Lord!

The Reverend Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States of North America at their Annual meeting at Winchester, in the State of Virginia, reposing the fullest confidence in your wisdom, talents, and Theological attainments, as well as in your enlightened piety, and devotedness to the cause of Christ, have this day with entire unanimity and the greatest cordiality, elected you to the German Professorship of Church History and Biblical Literature in their Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, in the State of Pennsylvania; and now, in accordance with, and by authority of their act, the undersigned as officers of this Synod aforesaid, most solemnly, earnestly, and affectionately call, invite, and entreat you to accept of the same. And in case of your acceptance, they, on their part, engage in the name of the Synod aforesaid, to render you all becoming respect, encouragement and assistance in the discharge of the duties of the high office to which they have called you; and at the same time to pay you annually, the sum of $1,000, in quarterly installments, and to furnish you with a free dwelling, earnestly praying that the Great Head of the Church may reward you more abundantly in the life to come for your work and labours of love.

Given at Winchester, Virginia, as aforesaid the 19th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three.

SAMUEL R. FISHER, *Stated Clerk*
J. F. BERG, *President of Synod*

When the professor-elect received the call tendered him by synod he wrote the following letter of acceptance, which is really a remarkable document for a young man of twenty-five to have written:

Berlin, (Prussia), Dec. 6, 1843

I received your letter yesterday, the most important which I have ever received—a letter which will decide, in all probability, my history for all my future time on earth. After I had perused it, I sunk down upon my knees, I may say involuntarily, and breathed forth thanksgiving and praise for that unbounded Grace of my God, which has followed me from my earliest years—which has interwoven all the threads of my life so closely and wonderfully, and which were now to be unfolded to my astonished eye. It is true, that since I had given you, though tremblingly, my willingness to accept the call of your Synod as soon as I should receive it, I continued inwardly decided by that declaration, nor did I at any time falter in this purpose, notwithstanding the dissuasions of esteemed friends. Still, I cannot say that I had that unshaken conviction that the call, provisionally tendered to me, was from God—and hence not that full inward satisfaction which could be desired. But upon opening your letter, the scales fell from my eyes, and I therefore hasten with all the fulness of a grateful and glowing heart, to say YEA to that call.

If I were to look merely to myself, I might indeed tremble at the thought of engaging in such a vast field of labor, as is presented to my youthful abilities. But the Lord has taught me, to look away from myself, and with the eye of faith and of full assurance, to look to his Divine and Almighty strength. I come to you, therefore, deeply sensible of the truth of the words of the Apostle: "When I am weak, then am I strong," and that God's power is "strength in weakness," and in the words of Luther:

"Mit uns'rer Kraft ist Nichts gethan,
Wir sind gar bald verloren,
Es streit't fuer uns der rechte Mann,
Den Gott selbst hat erkohren."

The Lord who is rich and faithful will, I trust, give mouth and wisdom, to teach and to preach, in such a manner, as that his honor and his Kingdom may be promoted.

With this cheering confidence I look forward to the future, even though that future should conceal within itself aught of clouds and of darkness. Armed with consolations like these, I shall be enabled to endure the pangs of separation from so many dear relatives, and brethren whom I am to leave behind me—from the beloved *fatherland* and many friends with whom my life has hitherto been intimately associated, and upon whom my fondest recollections and hopes have centered.

* * * * *

I come to you not with the wisdom of man, which exists to-day, and passes away to-morrow, and which can afford no lasting comfort and happiness to the panting heart, but with the *Word of God* which abideth for ever—abideth after heaven and earth shall have passed away, and although it comes to us modestly and meekly, like Him who has proclaimed it, but which, nevertheless, smiles upon us in peace, and manifests itself in glory—"a glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and Truth."

Nor is it less satisfactory to me (and in which I recognize most fully the divine hand) that I should be entrusted with the *Interpretation* of this ever old and ever new Word, (dieses ewig alten und ewig neuen Wortes). And it is equally matter for rejoicing with me, that another branch of my labors is to be *Church History*. It is in this, that God has gradually unfolded the plan of Salvation—in which the purposes of the divine mind—his purposes of Love and Wisdom—are written as with flames of fire, and from which that long cloud of faithful witnesses meets us, to instruct, to exhort, to warn, to comfort, and to bless us. She it is, who, next to God's Word, is the surest foundation, and upon which all expansive culture of the Church and of Theology must rest, if she is not to build upon the sand. These very departments—Exegesis and Ecclesiastical History—are those which possess with me the greatest attractions, and which I consider also of essential importance to the most fruitful development of the Church in North America.

* * * * *

How exalted the calling, to pour the fresh and lifegiving power of the Word and of Church History into a land, which has erst been ploughed up—which having no hindering power from without, can receive and carry them forward—a land, having before it a great and creative future, in which it may perhaps be emphatically said, the hopes of the further development of the evangelical Church depend! What a glorious office, to labor among men, whose first and last thoughts are, the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

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These are my views in reference to the call presented to me. But my hope is in God, who gives "both to will and to do. May it graciously please Him to say *Yea* and *Amen* to my understanding."[5]

After a farewell service on April 12, 1844, in which Dr. Schaff was ordained to the ministry in Dr. Krummacher's church at Elberfeldt, he began his journey to America. On the way he spent six weeks in England and familiarized himself thoroughly with the Tractarian Movement and the strong personalities of Oxford University. Dr. Schaff learned to love Oxford and spent many happy days there in later life. Sailing from London in the packet-ship *St. James,* in five weeks (July 28, 1844) he got his first glimpse of the new continent. On his first Sunday in New York he preached in the Dutch Reformed Church, then started for Mercersburg by way of Easton, Reading, Womelsdorf, Tulpehocken, Harrisburg, and Chambersburg. At each of these points he met pastors of the church and friends of the institution. At Chambersburg he was met by a delegation of theological students from Mercersburg, among them George W. Aughinbaugh, who later became one of the presidents of Mercersburg College, and D. A. Wilson, who became a Presbyterian missionary in Africa.

Dr. Schaff's first glimpse of Mercersburg was from a point that he himself called "*Schöne Aussicht,*" or "Prospect Hill," which the party passed on August 12, 1844.

[5] Reprinted *ibid.*, February 7, 1844.

The following descriptions, by two spectators, of Dr. Schaff's arrival and reception at Mercersburg will serve to show that this event marked, in the eyes of the village, the most important milestone yet reached in its history:

(1)

Mr. Editor:

It is already known to your readers, that Dr. Philip Schaff arrived in this country a few weeks ago. After spending a few days in New York City, where he preached in the Rev. Mr. Guldin's Church on the Sabbath, the Rev. Dr. Wolff of Easton, according to previous arrangement, accompanied him on the following day to that place, and after a short stay, he was conveyed by the Rev. Mr. Hoffeditz, one of the Commissioners to Germany, to Harrisburg, where they arrived in time to be present at the Triennial Convention of Delegates from the German and Dutch Reformed Churches. On Saturday morning Dr. Schaf set out for Chambersburg in the Cars, accompanied by several brethren who had been in attendance as Delegates at Harrisburg, and by the other Commissioner to Germany who had gone thither to meet Dr. S. On the following Sabbath, he preached in the Ger. Reformed Church in Chambersburg to a very large and attentive congregation. His Sermon on this occasion was listened to with delight and profit by all who could appreciate the simple and unadulterated doctrines of the ever blessed Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. It entered fully and deeply into the inward life and experience of every pious heart, and met a response from every soul that had learnt the principles of *that* Gospel, which is "the power of God unto Salvation." His manner was simple, dignified, earnest, and affectionate, and it could not escape any observer, that the large audience which hung upon his lips, was frequently thrilled with the bursts of eloquence which occasionally broke forth and which were at once natural and graceful—the eloquence of Truth, rather than the flourishes of rhetoric.

On the following Monday a Committee, representing the students of the Theological Seminary and of Marshall College arrived in Chambersburg, and in the afternoon they conveyed him, accompanied by a ministerial brother, by way of Greencastle to Mercersburg. The day was a most delightful one—auspicious we fondly hope, for the Institutions which are so deeply interested in the arrival of this dear man. It was a *lovely* evening—the fresh, pure air was wafted towards them from the chain of the semicircular Alleghenies which were spread out in all their magnificent grandeur as they approached the village of Mercersburg. It was near sunset—and a glorious sunset it was—and as the King of day was sinking behind the western Mountains—those mountains which reminded the distinguished stranger of his nativity—the Fatherland of William Tell—it was natural that his thoughts should travel *back* to his home and to the Mountains of Switzerland—to the scenes and labors of later years in the Royal city of the Prussians—and then to glance forward to the labors which awaited him in the New World, where he was expected to stand in the front ranks of God's host, to accelerate the final triumph of Truth over Error and of Light over Darkness. No wonder, that the cheerful and buoyant spirits, which until now had not forsaken him for a moment, should give way for a world of thought, full of serious and solemn import.

At 8 o'clock, the carriage halted on "Prospect Hill," about half a mile South of the village, where the students had assembled in a body, together with an unusually large number of citizens and strangers. After an introduction to a Committee of Reception on the part of the College and Seminary, the Professor was conducted to the Seminary Edifice, preceded by the Mercersburg Band of Music, and followed by the students and others in procession.

It was an imposing sight—-and what added greatly in making it so, was the splendid illumination of the Buildings belonging to the Seminary and College. The fine four story Preparatory Building, presenting one broad and noble front as we descended toward the village, was one of the most brilliant illumings that candles ever made behind glass. After reaching the Diamond, the procession entered Seminary

Street, at the head of which (to the East) and on a beautiful elevation, the noble four story edifice smiled down upon us with hundreds of bright and dazzling eyes, from the basement to the Cupola, as I never saw it smile before. Over the gateway a beautiful arch of Evergreens from the neighboring mountains was thrown—high and lofty. The massive pillars which support the portico of the Seminary, were most tastefully entwined with garlands and wreaths, and the windows above were beautifully festooned on either side with our own rich mountain-cedar.

After ascending the steps of the Portico, Dr. Schaf was introduced to Mr. Negly of the College, and Mr. Stern of the Seminary, the former of whom in a brief and handsome address in the English, and the latter in an equally appropriate one in the German language, welcomed the Professor elect to our happy shores, and especially to Mercersburg, as the sphere of his future labors in the Seminary and College of the German Reformed Church in America. Hereupon Dr. Schaf replied in a feeling and heart-touching manner. To do any thing like justice to his address, I ought, in the first place, to realize fully his own feelings under the circumstances, (which of course would be impossible)—and then it should be in his own language and not in an *English dress.* I shall therefore merely allude to a few passages in his reply. After accepting the cordial welcome tendered to him, he remarked, that such sincere demonstrations of confidence and esteem of pupils could not but be grateful to a Teacher—that in the present instance however, he could not receive them as an award for past services rendered, but merely as a demonstration of their love, which should act as a stimulus in prompting him, at any sacrifice, to be deserving of their regards. "When the heat & burden of my office," said he, "are ready to weigh me to the ground, I shall remember this evening—the brightest in the past history of my life; and this remembrance will waft towards me the soft and cooling breeze of heaven. When the wings of ardent yearning after *home* would carry me back to my fatherland, then will these wreaths of honor, the thousand burning lights, the dense mass of youths of both sexes, appear before my vision—my ear will catch again the pleasing sound of your welcoming-addresses, and I shall again with strong bonds feel myself chained to Mercersburg." "I come to you," continued the speaker, "from the far, far distance. The vast surface of the Atlantic Ocean which separates America from Europe, seems to represent the equally great mental distance between the two worlds; and when a few weeks ago, I beheld the shores of my native land gradually fading away in the distance, then it was, that the waves of deepest sadness and pensive longings beat upon this heart of mine. True, they were sundered upon the breakers of a felt consciousness, that I was following a call from God, which in a spiritual as well as in a temporal point of view, can make home our joy, and joy our home. This was not accomplished however, without doing violence to the feelings of nature. But as I approached nearer and nearer to the destined point of my journey, the more ardently did I desire after it, and the sorrow which had been felt in leaving the *old,* gradually gave way to joy on arriving in the *new* home. And soon I found myself transplanted into an American Germany—walked by the side of old and new friends through its fertile plains, its smiling farmhouses, its thriving towns and villages, and to-day my eyes were feasted for the first time with the charming mountains, which remind me so forcibly of the land of my youthful joys. But there are higher and purer joys than those of patriotism, and one single drop of love, is more refreshing than the overflowing cup of honor or fame. Far more than by all other things, was I refreshed by the profusion of brotherly love, which with opened arms received and bore me along thus far; *that* love, in whose embrace only we can feel ourselves truly comfortable and at home.

* * * * *

"I came in your midst, to labor for *the Church,* which is far removed beyond the boundaries of Language and Nationality—for the church, the spiritual mother-hearth of all Christians, which binds together those that are far distant in one fold, feeds them upon the same green pastures of the Word of God, and refreshes them with the same sweet water of eternal life."

* * * * *

After a merited tribute to his predecessor and his future colleague in the Seminary, the Doctor showed the importance of deep and thorough mental culture, which, combined with the freshness and well-known practicalness existing on the American soil, could not but yield, under the divine blessing, the most glorious fruits. I shall only yet give the conclusions of his address.—

"To add a few stones in rearing up this temple, is the object which has brought me hither. In the prosecution of this same object, I see you here also. We must mutually assist each other. I cannot labor to any purpose without you. From your youthful zeal I receive the greatest encouragement. The word, that I am to teach you, you must carry abroad in every direction and introduce it into actual life. Thus, then, let us go forth, hand in hand, heart in heart, animated with the same endeavors, with the same perseverance, ever having in view the same end. Thus, Mercersburg shall become with the blessing of God, without which indeed nothing can be accomplished, but which is never denied, where his glory is the chief object of pursuit—Mercersburg shall become a nursery, from which not only distinguished men in the civil walks of life, but above all, men enlightened from on high and filled with apostolic zeal and devotion, shall go forth, as able in literary knowledge as they are in practical activity, to stand forth as lights in the Church, from whom light and heat shall stream forth in every direction, before which superstition and infidelity shall acknowledge themselves as vanquished. The warmest wish which I can at this time express in words, for the rich proof of your affection towards me, but which, long as I live among you, I will endeavor with all the powers within me to bring to a realization, is:

"VIVANT, FLOREANT, CRESCANT, SEMINARUM ET COLLEGIUM NOSTRUM! (May our Seminary and College live, flourish and increase—Editor's note). Yes, may they live a divine life; may they bloom and flourish like a tree planted by the fresh water-brooks—may they grow up and bring forth fruit which shall endure to eternity!"

At the close of this interesting ceremony, the Rev. Dr. Nevin introduced his future colleague to the different Professors composing the Faculty of Marshall College, after which these gentlemen with various clergymen from the vicinity and other friends, accompanied Professor Schaf to the residence of Dr. Nevin, where the remainder of the evening was spent in joyful greetings and social intercourse. The brethren all found it pleasant to be there, and to witness the cheerfulness of spirits, and the blandness of manners of our long-expected and oft prayed-for friend and Professor. To *see* him now, and apparently so happy, in the midst of hearts that could beat in unison with his own in reference to the things of the Kingdom and cause of Jesus Christ—to hear his voice, now in his own and rich "Muttersprache," and then, with astonishing facility, in the English language—was matter of gratitude to God our Heavenly Father as it was of pleasure and delight.

In the midst of this interchange of thought and sentiment, the sound of vocal music from without was heard. They were strains—sweet and harmonious—uttered forth in the language of the German's "Fatherland." Blessings were invoked of high Heaven upon the distinguished stranger in our midst; and when the last strain had died away upon the soft breeze, a respectful lifting and slight waving of hats with the thrice-repeated "VIVAT HOCH UNSER PROFESSOR!" ensued. This was followed by the spirited air in Latin: GAUDEAMUS IGITUR! and after a short interval, we heard the soft tones of instrumental music, which closed the serenades of the joyous students for the evening.

Thus ended a day, not soon to be forgotten. May God, even our father's God say AMEN to this beginning, and grant that rich and heavenly blessings may rest upon the *Professor elect*—upon all his respected *colleagues*—upon *all the students*—upon our *land,* and upon the WORLD!

S.

Chambersburg, Aug. 15th

(2)

Mr. Editor:

Permit me, to inform you of the safe arrival of the Rev. Dr. Schaf, in Mercersburg, and his warm reception among the students. I am the more happy in doing so, as I know you will be anxious to lay something before the readers of the Messenger relative to the above event.

Monday evening the 12th, inst. was the time appointed to receive the distinguished stranger at the place of his future residence. The students during the day, had been busily engaged in fitting up the Seminary for the occasion. With the assistance of the ladies of the town, they had prepared a number of beautiful festoons of evergreen to encircle the columns of the Portico, and a large arch of the same material to throw over the gate at the campus. The windows of the Seminary Edifice had, at the same time, been prepared for a general illumination. The students of the Preparatory Department, had exhibited the same zeal in having their edifice fixed up for an illumination. At about half after seven, an unusually large procession of students, strangers, and citizens escorted by the Mercersburg Band, proceeded to "Schoene Aussicht," a small elevation near the town, where Dr. Schaf appeared in a short time, attended by the Committee, who had brought him from Chambersburg. He was there received by the students in silence with their heads uncovered. As he passed through the long avenue of students, all ready to pay him their respects, the utmost decorum prevailed, though it had now grown dark, and a large collection of individuals of all classes from the town had assembled.

The proper civilities having been passed, the procession returned to the Seminary with a scene before them such as Mercersburg has never perhaps witnessed. On the one side, the Preparatory Building presented a blazing front, while the Seminary on the other, filled with lights, which were reflected from the massive pillars in front hung with evergreens, with its cupola gleaming with light far above the scene, presented an appearance of positive grandeur.

When the procession reached the Portico, Dr. Schaf was addressed in two very neat and dignified Salutatories the one in English by Mr. Negly, of the Senior Class, the other in German by Mr. Stern of the Seminary. Dr. Schaf replied in a very eloquent rejoinder in the German language. His feelings in view of his kind reception at the sphere of his future labors, seem to have given freedom and warmth to his language. He alluded very feelingly to his learned predecessor the Rev. Dr. Rauch,—to his present worthy colleague, the Rev. Dr. Nevin,—to the great work to which he had felt himself called from the fatherland,—and concluded by assuring his new friends of the pleasure with which he would unite with them in the advancement of Religion and Theological Science in America.

After the exercises were over he spent the remainder of the evening at the house of Dr. Nevin, with a number of his new acquaintances. Late in the evening some of the students appeared with their instruments. A number of German songs were sung. Also the well-known German Student's song, "Gaudeamus igitur." As they withdrew they delivered their vivat professor, which was answered from the window by a vivant studiosi.

You will thus perceive that Monday was not an ordinary day to the students at Mercersburg. They are fully alive to the acquisition which their Alma Mater has received in the person of a distinguished scholar from the capital of Prussia. They are fully aware of the rich mines of German thought, to which they will now have more free access than before. The very presence of a scholar from abroad, laden with honor as he is, and at so young an age, should be a constant stimulus to them in the prosecution of manly and energetic thought. With their esteemed President to direct them by his own vigorous judgment, and to urge them to deep and solid attainments, it is not vaunting to say that Mercersburg is destined under the blessing of a kind Providence to send forth some of the most substantial scholars and profound thinkers in the land.

I cannot conclude this very imperfect sketch, without alluding to the very flattering prospects of Marshall College at the present time. At the commencement of the present session, there was an accession of 33 new students. During the coming Winter Session, the accession will be still greater. The next Freshman class will number somewhere near 40 members. The enterprise of building Society Halls, has met with an unexpected degree of encouragement from a discerning public, and is now in a sure way of being crowned with a triumphant success.

A SPECTATOR[6]

An old student of Mercersburg has written the best account we can find anywhere of the appearance, personality, and mannerisms of Dr. Schaff shortly after his arrival in his new field of labor:

" Early in the Fall of 1847 I went to Mercersburg. On the morning of my second day's stay in the village, as I walked up College Avenue, in company of Gov. Hartranft, Judge Longacker and Dr. Fry, an older student by my side touched my elbow and whispered, ' There is Dr. Schaff.' My eyes widened to their full round, and I found myself staring after a lithe form, quick of step, of nimble walk, with black, silken hair, clothed in a fur-lined overcoat, the first I had ever seen. For eight years thereafter I was wont to see him going up and down those streets, in and out of the building and class-rooms, always on a half run, with bowed head, and a roll of manuscript in his hand. His spare face wore a pleasant smile, and his general appearance was of a winning nature. In and out of his family, he was ever the same dear Professor.

" To my latest day I can call up Dr. Schaff, quickly stepping into his lecture hall, ascending the rostrum, unfolding his roll of papers, standing erect and folding his hands, uttering his usual prayer: ' Sanctify us by the truth; Thy Word is Truth. Amen! ' When this was said, he at once began on the theme, and with a mellifluous flow of words, continued to the end. His mantle and manuscripts were caught up as quickly, and he departed as hastily as he entered.

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[6] Both these accounts were published *ibid.*, August 21, 1844.

"Apparently not viewing the class, he yet saw everyone at a glance. Once one of the students entered the exercise in his studying gown. He smilingly said, 'Oh! I see we have a *cardinal* amongst us!' It was enough, no one ventured to be a cardinal again, but came in suitably dressed.

"The lot between his home and the seminary the good matron had appropriated by spanning with a wash-line. The Doctor shot through the space, and not looking up, the line took him in the mouth. The Doctor lay on his back for a moment, when he sprang to his feet, and, quick as a flash, his pocket-knife severed the line, scattering linens over the *campus*. The good matron looked askance, and never crossed the Doctor's path again. Yet it seemed to me as if the Doctor always glanced upwards, as he came to the spot, ever after that.

"We will not vouch for the truth of the occurrence, though we all believed it.

"So, too, we accept the report of the Doctor's deal in pigs. The pen was small, but the pigs were growing larger from day to day. What was to be done until the time for slaughtering arrived? He counseled with Davy Johnson, one day, who told him that *he* had two smaller shoats, which would have room enough in the Doctor's sty. At once the Doctor effected a deal, and exchanged pigs, to the delight of the grinning David.

"We only once saw Dr. Schaff somewhat sour of face. It was when the *Lippe-Detmolders* raised a rebellion. The late Dr. Davis described the facts of this disturbance in the most facetious style. We refer the reader to that series of articles in the *Messenger*.

"In his own household we saw Dr. Schaff *in tears* when his dear little Willie breathed his last, after suffering for weeks from swallowing a chestnut hull. When his beautiful body lay ready to be buried at Frederick City, just before removal, the sorrowing Doctor knelt, and submissively thanked God for having granted them this child, for the joy the dear little soul had afforded them, and for his early salvation. He rose from his knees, and weepingly sighed, 'It is hard to give up such a child.'"[7]

Dr. Benjamin Bausman gives us an excellent picture of Dr. Schaff as he must have appeared to young men shortly after his arrival in America. The following scene took place in the parsonage of Pastor Glessner of the Reformed Church at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, probably in the winter of 1844 or '45:

"After the baskets had been emptied, Pastor Glessner insisted on taking the awkward chap [Bausman] into the parlor of the parsonage. To my consternation, he introduced me to a gay-looking young gentleman just arrived from Germany, whom he called Dr. Schaff. Well do I remember his black hair and his face, fresh like a blushing spring rose surmounted with gold spectacles. He took me by the hand and expressed himself pleased with my way of visiting my pastor. As a bashful country lad, I stood in awe of the brilliant German scholar. He then laid his hand upon my shoulder, saying, 'I hope to see you in our seminary one day as a student for the ministry.' I then little expected that his hopes would be realized."[8]

The inaugural address of Dr. Schaff was delivered at Reading, Pennsylvania on October 25, 1844. The synod had met in Allentown and after its adjournment the members went to Reading for the inaugural services. Prior to the ceremonies Dr. Schaff was received from the Evangelical Church of Prussia, made a member of the synod, and instructed to connect himself with the Classis of Mercersburg. The inaugural address itself, entitled "The Principle of Protestantism and its Relation to the Present Posture of the Church, Particularly in the United States," proved in its consequences to be "the most influential literary work in the history of the Reformed Church in the United States."[9] The introductory remarks are of great personal interest. They are not the most important part of his discourse, but they give us an opportunity of judging of the spirit and feelings with which he entered upon the important duties of his new sphere of labor.

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[7] *Ibid.*, November 16, 1893.

[8] Ranck, *op. cit.*, p. 47.

[9] Schaff, David S. *The Life of Philip Schaff*. New York, 1897, p. 107.

Brethren Beloved and Honored in the Lord.

Guarded and led by the Almighty hand, which rules the winds and the waves, I find myself standing at length in your midst, on the threshold of my new sphere of labor. But little more than a year ago, I had not the most distant idea of ever visiting the new world; while to you all my very existence was unknown. You had sent two worthy representatives of your Church to the mother Country, to secure for your Theological Seminary a man, whose name simply, carrying with it such a charm as it does for the friends of the gospel on both sides of the Atlantic, was sufficient to clothe the institution with new importance and credit; for whose sake alone, you were led to embark in so bold and weighty a movement. In the hands of Him who so often frustrates the prayers and plans of his people in one form, to establish them contrary to their shortsighted wisdom in another, this distinguished servant of God became the medium by which you were conducted to myself. In no turn of my life have I ever held myself more passive, than in this removal to America; in none, at the same time, have I endeavored more conscientiously and steadily to surrender myself entirely to the guidance of the Lord.

Strong indeed was the temptation, I confess, to remain in the world-renowned metropolis of German science, where my academic career had just begun to open under favorable auspices, in the society of so many cultivated, profound, and noble minds, well fitted to enlarge and invigorate my inexperienced powers, and under the fostering care of a pious and highly gifted monarch, who has rendered his name immortal also in the annals of *your* Church, by the magnanimous interest he has shown in its welfare; there, along with the German Evangelical Church and Theology, though only as one of the least in her service, to fall or conquer in the deadly war, that now rages with fire and sword in the spiritual life of the old world. But the voice of nature becomes dumb, when the most competent judges in Germany, honored instructors and beloved friends, men long conspicuous in the religious history of the age, with strange unanimity joined in recommending me as one specially qualified for the vacant post at Mercersburg; and when your Synod subsequently, after the most earnest and mature deliberation, saluted me, as from the mouth of a single man, with the solemn call, *Come over and help us!*

And thus I stand here to day with the consoling consciousness, by which all darkness is made light, that in forsaking literary connections, country, kindred and friends, as a missionary of science, I have not pursued a road cast up by my own hands. How could I do otherwise, than I have done? Israel's pillar of cloud and fire has gone before me, in clear unbroken vision, from the palaces of Berlin to the foot of the Blue Mountains; so that I almost tremble in view of the vast perspective that is made to open upon me through such foretokenings, and under an unfeigned sense of my own weakness am ready to ask misgivingly, with one greater than myself, *Who am I, Lord, that thou shouldst send me?* Yes, I speak it plainly in your presence, when I consider the vast expectations that rest upon me, and the unmerited marks of honor which attended my reception on the 12th of August, before all service on my own part, I should be cast down utterly, were it not for the stay I find in God's encouraging word: *I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt do. . . .*

Whether now I shall close my earthly career in the western world, or find myself called to the temporary service simply of scattering some germs that may be watered afterwards and brought to perfection by more competent hands; then to return to my original home, enriched with such observation and experience touching the Church, as are to be gathered from a land, mirroring like this her youthful infirmities and the fresh practical zeal of her first love, in one picture; this, I say, is a question, which it is not for me, nor for any one else, at this time, to decide. God's thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are his ways our ways; and the man is to be counted happy, who by humble renunciation of his own counsels, and passive surrendry of his course to the conduct of his heavenly Father, provides against painful disappointments; planting his feet on the firm ground of the actual present, and devoting his entire strength to its claims, free of all useless cares of empty dreams for the future. Now at least I am *here*, to serve your Church, and in and through this the *Church universal* of Jesus Christ. At present, no field is before me save that to which I have been called in America, and I have no ear for any call besides, cheerfully resigned to any issue that may follow. "Whether we live, we live unto the Lord," it matters not where, in the old world or in the new; "and whether we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live therefore or die, we are the Lord's."[10]

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This address was afterward enlarged and published in the form of a book of 215 pages under the title of *The Principle of Protestantism*, to which Dr. Nevin wrote the introduction.[11] The main idea at that time was new in this country. It was based on Neander's conception of the development of the church through the ages, and the idea that the Reformation of the sixteenth century was not a *de novo* movement but rather the most important phase of a religious change, preparation for which had been going on in the church of the middle ages and the consequences of which were determining the Protestant life of the present and of the future. The key word was "development." The idea of Darwinian evolution lay fifteen years in the future. He showed clearly that the Reformation was not a revolution, but a crisis in the sixteenth century in living organic union with the church that had gone before it. He associated progress with development, and made a strong plea for the unity of the church.

The result was that shortly after the book appeared with its introduction by Dr. Nevin some of the clergymen, under the leadership of Dr. Joseph F. Berg, who had sent the call to Dr. Schaff, sounded a public note of alarm and made an assault on the orthodoxy of both Dr. Schaff and Dr. Nevin. A heresy trial was instituted by the Classis of Philadelphia before the synod that met at York, Pennsylvania in 1845. Dr. Schaff used to say, "My little book was a harmless book and I had not the remotest thought, when I delivered my address, that I was out of accord with the views of the Reformed Church in this country." [12] After an exciting meeting at York the synod thoroughly vindicated both of these men.

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[10] Quoted in the *Reformed Church Messenger*, April 9, 1845.

[11] Schaff, Philip. *The Principle of Protestantism*. Chambersburg, 1845.

A more important outcome of the inaugural address and the stir it created was "the Mercersburg theology" (see p. 176). *The Principle of Protestantism* with its theory of development, and the Mercersburg theology with its Christocentric emphasis, were widely noticed and vehemently discussed in all the religious papers and theological quarterlies of America, the British Isles, and the continent of Europe.

Dr. Schaff's activities at Mercersburg may be divided into two periods, the first decade running from 1844 to the removal of Marshall College in 1853, the second covering the period when he was almost alone in the work of the Seminary. Two years after his arrival in Mercersburg he was married to Mary Elizabeth Schley of Frederick, Maryland. Their eight children were all born on the Mercersburg campus, several of them dying in infancy. Mrs. Schaff must have been a very gracious hostess if one may judge from the reports of the students, one of whom wrote, "I look back with peculiar pleasure to those student receptions, where host and hostess vied with each other to bless their guests with the graces of genial hospitality. This too was part of our education, which taught us the amenities of refined social intercourse." [13]

Dr. Schaff rode horseback for exercise, took long walks, sometimes to Greencastle, travelled east and west, preached Sunday after Sunday in the pulpits of the church, lectured on church history to the students in the Seminary and on aesthetics and German literature to the students in Marshall College, wrote articles for the press and for magazines in German and in English, commenced the publication of a new periodical,[14] and published the first volume of his monumental *History of the Apostolic Church*, which, the *Princeton Review* declared, placed its author in the highest rank of contemporary church historians.[15]

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[12] Schaff, David S., *op. cit.*, p. 114.

[13] Quoted *ibid.*, p. 127.

Besides this he wrote while at Mercersburg *What Is Church History? A Vindication of the Idea of Historical Development, Dante's Divina Commedia, American Nationality, Germany, Its Universities, Theology, and Religion, The Moral Character of Christ, A Christian Catechism for Sunday Schools and Families, A German Hymn Book,* which ran through different editions, and other works. It is amazing that a man with a limited library in a remote mountain village in the middle of the nineteenth century could write so many articles and books of a highly technical nature which were destined to become world authorities in their field.

In that first decade hopes at Mercersburg ran high. The fame of the institutions was spreading; the professors became the idols of their students because of the wide recognition they were receiving in the theological world. The number of students in the Seminary rose to twenty-six. It is true that the institutions were struggling for a bare existence, since the support of the church was uncertain and precarious. But all the institutions, Seminary, College, and Preparatory School, were bound together by the common ideal of helping young men in their eager efforts to obtain a worthy education.

The second decade of his residence at Mercersburg was filled with hard struggles, sad experiences, and utter loneliness. When Marshall College went to Lancaster in 1853 and when Dr. Nevin resigned his position in the Seminary, Dr. Schaff became exceedingly lonely. It is true that he was elected to be the first president of Franklin and Marshall College and his name appears in the first catalogue of the college as President-Elect and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, yet the synod did not wish to sanction his withdrawal from the Seminary at Mercersburg and he was not anxious to exchange his work as a specialist in church history for administrative and executive labors. Therefore he declined the presidency and remained in Mercersburg for another ten years, during which he tried to mediate between German theology and American thought. In one of these years the Seminary was closed and Dr. Schaff went to Europe to renew his old academic friendships in Germany, France, Switzerland, and England. When he returned from Europe he said that he was almost ten years younger in body and spirits. He found a new colleague in the person of Dr. Bernard C. Wolff, who was inaugurated Professor of Theology on November 29, 1854. The controversial period was past, for a season at least, and Dr. Schaff spent a great deal of his time in developing a new cultus for the Reformed Church under the title *The Liturgy or Order of Christian Worship.*

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[14] The *Deutsche Kirchenfreund* (1848).

[15] Schaff, Philip. *History of the Apostolic Church, with a General Introduction to Church History;* translated by Edward D. Yeomans. New York, 1853; Edinburgh, 1854, 2 vols.

One of the bright spots in Dr. Schaff's life came in 1856 when James Buchanan, during his campaign for the presidency, paid a visit to his native home in Mercersburg and stopped with Dr. Schaff on Seminary Hill. In his journal Dr. Schaff wrote, "We talked freely on various subjects, and especially on the political aspects of the country. He feels pretty sure of being elected; but he thinks it would be much to be regretted if he did not receive the votes of some of the Northern states. A predominantly Southern triumph of the Democracy would not ensure the Union and might be the beginning of the end. Frémont's election, he thinks, would be a virtual dissolution of the Union, which would not hold together ninety days after it. The South would send no delegates to Congress. He looks much older than when I last saw him in London, and may not outlive his term." [16]

Soon after Buchanan's election Dr. Schaff visited Wheatland. "I saw," he wrote, "the Bible, the *Way of Life,* the *Union Bible Dictionary,* Rauch's *Sermons,* and several other religious books on his study table, together with the Constitution of the United States and Story's *Commentaries.* He spoke of our liturgy as the 'platform.' 'I have no objections to Unitarians,' he said, 'but if Jesus Christ was a mere man and did not make an atonement, I would not give a fig for Christianity.' When I repeated what Rousseau and Napoleon said about the divinity of Christ, he expressed his full assent."[17]

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[16] Quoted in Schaff, David S., *op. cit.,* p. 206.

The experiences of Philip Schaff in Mercersburg during the period of the Civil War are worthy of more than passing mention. He kept a journal during the weeks preceding and following the battle of Gettysburg. After his death this journal was printed, under the title "The Gettysburg Week."[18]

It must be borne in mind that Mercersburg is close to the Maryland border, within thirty miles of Harper's Ferry and the Potomac. The battle fields of Antietam and Gettysburg are forty miles away. It was a popular refuge for contraband negroes who had escaped from their masters in Virginia, and was constantly exposed to Confederate raids and subject to invasion by guerilla bands.

Mercersburg suffered greatly from the flying raids into Southern Pennsylvania made by the Confederate cavalry under Stuart in October 1862. On this occasion Dr. Schaff, who was always loyal to the Union, wrote to his friend Dr. Eli Keller: "The people took it in good humor, while keenly feeling the insult and humiliation. It was a marvel that two or three thousand cavalrymen could cross the river in the face of an army of two hundred thousand, but it was a still greater wonder that they could recross with all their booty without molestation. They took our town council with them and promised us further occasional visits. This makes Mercersburg a very bad place for study." Again he wrote to a friend: "This town of Mercersburg has recently sent to the front, at the call of the nation, a company of one hundred and fifteen volunteers, among them the choicest of its young men. They went forth, after addresses and prayers by its six clergymen. One exhorted them against self-indulgence; another against profanity; a third directed them to the moral battle against the flesh, the world and the devil, which they were under no circumstances to forget; a fourth pointed to the banner of the cross with the inscription, 'In this banner shall ye conquer,' and to the immortal crown. To every soldier a New Testament was given. The women were busy night and day preparing all sorts of comforts for the march. And so they departed amidst the tears and prayers of mothers and sisters. I went with the procession on horseback to the railroad ten miles away, returning in the evening. It was an inspiring spectacle. I felt a desire to go along as chaplain and thought of Zwingli's conduct." [19]

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[17] Quoted *ibid.*, p. 206.

[18] Schaff, Philip. "The Gettysburg Week," *Scribner's Magazine*, July, 1894.

For a time Dr. Schaff left Mercersburg to teach Church History in Andover Theological Seminary as a temporary substitute for Dr. Shedd, but he returned to Southern Pennsylvania in the spring of 1863 and was in Mercersburg during the whole of the Gettysburg campaign. His reminiscences of this period give us a vivid picture of war-times.

On June 26, 1863 he writes: "This is the third time within less than a year that the horrible civil war, now raging through this great and beautiful country, has been brought to our very doors and firesides. First during the Rebel invasion of Maryland, in September 1862, when forty thousand Rebel troops occupied Hagerstown and sent their pickets to within five miles of this place, and kept us in hourly fear of their advance into Pennsylvania, until they were defeated at Antietam. In October followed the bold and sudden Rebel raid of Stuart's cavalry to Mercersburg and Chambersburg. Now we have the most serious danger, the actual invasion of this whole southern region of Pennsylvania by a large portion of the Rebel army of Lee, formerly under the command of the formidable Stonewall Jackson, now under that of General Ewell. We are now fairly, though reluctantly, in the Southern Confederacy cut off from all newspapers and letters and there is no way of safe escape." [20] He describes how it was necessary to suspend the exercises of the Seminary, "partly because it was impossible to study, partly because we have no right to retain the students when their State calls them to its defence.

[19] These two letters are quoted in Schaff, David S., *op. cit.*, p. 211.

[20] Schaff, Philip. "The Gettysburg Week," *Scribner's Magazine*, July, 1894.

We invited them all to enlist at the next recruiting station. For what are seminaries, colleges, and churches if we have no country and home?"[21]

He describes the flight of the contraband negroes to the mountains, the arrival of Jenkins' guerilla force. "The majority of the students have gradually disappeared, mostly on foot. Dr. Wolf remains, but his wife is in Lancaster." On June 24th, "the drum and fife announced the arrival of a whole brigade of seven regiments of infantry with a large force of cavalry and six pieces of artillery, commanded by General Stewart. The whole force was estimated at from three thousand to five thousand men. General Stewart called the citizens together and had a proclamation of Lee read, to the effect that the advancing army should take supplies and pay in Confederate money, or give a receipt, but not violate private property." The trouble was, however, that the proclamation was not heeded, and the community suffered terribly. Dr. Schaff describes in detail the slave hunt by guerilla bands that threatened to burn every house harboring a fugitive slave. "My family is kept in constant danger, on account of poor old Eliza, our servant, and her little boy, who hide in the grain-fields during the day, and return under cover of the night to get something to eat. This reminds one of the worst times of the Dark Ages, where might was right, and right had no might."[22]

He describes the shooting of a Confederate cavalry officer by a Union soldier in front of the Mansion House in the Mercersburg Diamond, on July 3rd; and the interruption of the church service on Sunday, July 5th, with the news of the Gettysburg victory, and the announcement that 747 Confederate prisoners, most wounded, were being brought to Mercersburg. "The whole town turned out to see the sight. After dark they began to arrive and pass through town. A most exciting spectacle never to be forgotten! The wounded Rebels brought the tale of the terrible battles fought around Gettysburg on Wed., Thurs., and Friday last (July 3d). They left the battle-field on Saturday the 4th of July, when the battle was still going on, though with less violence.

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[21] *Ibid.*

[22] *Ibid.*

"The last of the train passed through town towards the Gap after eleven o'clock at night. I then went to bed. But I was hardly undressed, when Mr. Murray and Beecher Wolf rang the bell and asked me whether the Seminary could be had for the temporary occupation of those prisoners who were too severely wounded or exhausted to be transported further that night. I gave my consent most cheerfully, subject to the approval of Dr. Wolf. I got up and assisted in unloading and accommodating the wounded prisoners. Several citizens assisted. I thought we would have to provide for a few dozen. But behold the whole train of ambulances was ordered back, and about six hundred were unloaded on the Seminary, the rest in the basement of the Methodist Church, and in Dr. King's barn. The whole night was consumed in the process.

"Monday, July 6th.—The Seminary is now fairly turned into a military hospital. A novel chapter in its history, and one full of sad interest.

"In the meantime charity and curiosity were busy in providing for the prisoners an abundance of food and attention, which seemed to fill them with delight and gratitude. One colonel from N. Carolina remarked: 'Your kindness makes it almost a luxury to be prisoner here.' This speaks well for this place, which has suffered such heavy losses during the last few weeks from Rebel guerillas, and now turns round without a murmur to nurse their sick and wounded.

"I spent a good deal of time with the prisoners, privates and officers. The privates, generally speaking, look most wretched—ragged, torn, bruised, mutilated, dirty. Their dress represents every style and color, butternut cloth, half uniforms, no uniforms, full of mud from the heavy rains.

"Wednesday, July 8th—Dr. Negley, appointed Medical Superintendent, and Mr. Hornbaker, appointed Provost-Marshal, concluded, with the consent of the people down town, to move all the sick of the town up to the Seminary, and to throw the whole burden and offence of this trouble upon the Seminary circle. I protested, with Dr. Wolf, against it as well as I could, but in vain. So the building is taken possession of by military force, and the students who remain will be turned out. My conscience is clear; I did my best to save the private rooms and the furniture.

"Sunday, July 12th.—Dr. Wolff preached in our church a Thanksgiving sermon. I preached in the Seminary chapel in the afternoon, on prayer, to as many of the wounded soldiers as could be moved. Several of our own soldiers were in, together with citizens and students. The soldiers were quite attentive. Rev. Mr. Frierson, the Rebel chaplain, closed with a good prayer."[23]

Shortly after the period covered by Dr. Schaff's journal, he was given a leave of absence, the ultimate outcome of which was his election to a professorship in Union Theological Seminary, New York, where he spent the last thirty years of his life. During these years he took a leading part in some of the great movements for church union. He was instrumental in bringing about the Conference of the Evangelical Alliance in New York, and he became Chairman of the American Committee on the Revised Version of the Bible.

The writer recalls distinctly the last visit Dr. Schaff made in October 1892 to the Eastern Synod of the Reformed Church, meeting in Lancaster. He can still see the eyes of a genial old Professor sparkle and glisten as he said: "When I arrived in Mercersburg many years ago, I found few theological students; now you have sixty-four. Then you had but two professors, who had to divide their time between the Seminary and the College; now you have five professors wholly devoted to the Seminary. Then they welcomed me with a torchlight procession, and I felt ashamed of myself, for I wasn't anything yet.

"Providence may still have a few years of usefulness in store for me. The autumnal storms are followed by the Indian summer with its bright sunshine and balmy air, before nature goes to sleep till the resurrection of the Spring. But whether one year or ten years may be granted to me, [he died October 20, 1893], I shall never forget the sweet memories of this day, and it is with profound gratitude that I bid you, my old and dear pupils and friends, an affectionate farewell till me meet again, in the general assembly of the first-born in heaven." [24]

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[23] *Ibid.*

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[24] This quotation is reconstructed from several sources: the *F. & M. Weekly* [Franklin and Marshall College], October 26, 1892; Schaff, David S., *op. cit.,* p. 219; and the author's personal recollections.

CHAPTER XII

The Growth of Marshall College

WHEN the Classical School left for Mercersburg the institution had a deficit of $2000. This was probably one reason why the school was willing to go to the community that made the best offer. The Mercersburg pledge of $10,000, secured under the inspiring leadership of the Rev. Jacob Mayer, was paid in large part, though not entirely. The Rev. H. L. Rice reported $5807 in additional pledges procured by him as agent for the Synod. The Rev. B. C. Wolff reported $3890 in 1838, and $3126 in 1839. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appropriated $12,000 for the use of the college. Many gifts to Marshall College came from the entire church. Some of them were in the form of cash, many of them in the form of pledges, and in at least one instance a lady offered to give her barouche for the education of young men:

CENTENARY BAROUCHE

A Lady connected with the German Reformed Church has been pleased to make a Centenary present to Marshall College, in the shape of an elegant TWO HORSE BAROUCHE, with HARNESS complete. It has two inside seats, with one outside for the driver, and is nearly as good as new, having been used only on one or two occasions. It was built of the best materials, by one of the best undertakers in the country. The original cost was $900, and will now be sold for half that sum. Those who may wish to purchase will please address the

REV. MR. HEINER, Baltimore, Md.[1]

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[1] *Reformed Church Messenger,* January 10, 1842.

Frequently gifts to Marshall College were made on a scholarship plan. Whenever an individual contributed $500 to the endowment he received a certificate of scholarship which entitled him to designate in perpetuity one student who should receive free tuition in the college. These certificates were legally transferable. This method increased the endowment but in course of time sadly diminished the income from tuition upon which the college was dependent. Of course the college had the use of the building known as Old Main Hall, erected for the Theological Seminary.

With the coming of Dr. Nevin the centenary movement of 1841 received a strong impetus. The gross result was pledges to the amount of $81,960.47, of which $44,272.48 were designated in favor of Marshall College. The pledges, however, were slow in being paid. By 1853 the college had received only $27,589.88 of its portion of the fund. Had the whole amount of the pledge been promptly paid the history of Marshall College would have been different. In due course of time it was found that the income from invested funds was not equal to annual expenses, and financial embarrassment resulted.

Dr. Nevin never received anything from the college; neither did Dr. Schaff as professor of German. Both of them, of course, received their Seminary salary from the synod, but even that source failed after a time, for in 1850 Dr. Nevin resigned his professorship in the Seminary on the ground that for a long time his salary had not been paid, and " he saw no other way to bring the matter to proper consideration and at the same time, that the necessities of the college seemed to require his whole time for that institution, as an alternative more tolerable than its being allowed to fail altogether by his withdrawal from its service." [2]

By 1849 more than $7000 had been drawn from the endowment fund for the purpose of meeting current expenses, and it was reported that " a most solemn crisis had been reached which might well startle the most sanguine friends of the church; and that a deeply mortifying lethargy seemed to pervade the church, which, unless proper remedies be applied, threaten premature dissolution."[3]

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[2] Stahr, J. S. "Financial Development of F. & M. College." *Reformed Church Review,* April, 1903, p. 165.

It was a period of heroic struggle on the part of a small group of great scholars to build up a school of high standards of scholarship and lofty ideals of living for the boys of the middle of the nineteenth century. These men, though poorly supported, had academic empires in their brains. They thought in terms of the universities from which they had come.

As early as 1838 a law school was established in connection with Marshall College. The trustees and faculty outlined a two-year course and selected the Hon. Alexander Thomson of Chambersburg as Professor of Jurisprudence. The following entry appears in the minutes of the Board of Trustees under date of February 14, 1838:

" Resolved That connected with this institution there shall be established a Law School and a Professor shall be appointed therein who shall give instruction in the science of the Law to the graduates of the college and other young gentlemen who may desire to prepare themselves with him for that Profession. Whereupon the Hon. Alexander Thomson of Chambersburg was unanimously elected Professor in said School.

" Resolv'd That the Professor of Law shall judge whether the qualifications of candidates entitle them to admission into this school, and he shall also have the power to admonish them or to remove them for improper conduct or to advise them to withdraw from the school if their talents shall not be found equal to the successful study of the law.

" Resolved, that the students of this school shall be required to apply themselves with diligence to the subjects pointed out by the Professor, who shall also appoint examinations as frequently as in his judgement may be necessary.

" —That the course of study shall occupy two years and such students as shall have obtained the certificate of the Professor of Law that they have completed the course of legal studies pursued in the school, shall be considered suitable candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Laws."[4]

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[3] Bowman, J. C. "Lessons from our Educational History." *Ibid.*, April, 1903, p. 269.

The first catalogue of Marshall College (for the year 1837–38) contains the following information concerning the newly established law course:

LAW SCHOOL

The students in this department are required to study the best elementary writers, having reference, when necessary to a full knowledge of the subject, to the original authorities. Recitations and examinations take place five times a week, except when Judge Thomson is occupied in Court, or absent on the Circuit. On these occasions, what the student may have passed over negligently, is recalled and impressed on his memory; what he has not understood, is fully explained; differences between the Common Law of England and the Laws of this country, are pointed out, and instructions are communicated in a plain and familiar manner, on matters connected with the subject of the recitation. Every student is required to furnish, once a week, either an abridgment in writing of a chapter in the elementary work he is studying, or a written opinion on some case stated, or a question of Law.

A Moot Court is about to be established in the School, in which the process and pleading, in fictitious causes, will be prepared by the students, and demurrers, cases stated, etc. will be argued and determined, in a manner as nearly resembling as possible, the actual proceedings of a Court of Justice. In the discussions in this Court, while the young gentlemen will be required to look diligently into the authorities, every possible pains will be taken to induce them to make themselves acquainted with the great elementary principles of the science, which may be involved in the question.

The course of studies embrace not only the principles, but the *practice* of the profession—every thing necessary to a full preparation for admission to the bar. The period of studies is regulated by the rules of Court. When the student is under the age of twenty-one, he is required to study three years; if above that age, two years.

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[4] Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

Upon a final and satisfactory examination, the degree of Bachelor of Laws will be conferred by the Faculty.

As the Law School has been recently established, the whole of the books, to make up the complete course of study, have not yet been selected. The following will be among the number:

Blackstone's Commentaries; Selwyn's Nisi Prius; Kent's Commentaries; Chitty, on Pleading; Philips or Starkey, on Evidence; Fonblanque, on Equity; Sugdon, on Vendors; Angel and Ames, on Corporations; Powell, on Contracts; Comyn, on Contracts; Pennsylvania Practice; Chitty, on Bills; Paley, on Agency; Story, on Bailments; Blanshard, on the Statute of Limitations; Toller's Law of Executors; Law of Principal and Surity, by Thobald; Platt, on Covenants; Cary, on Partnerships.

Where sufficient time is not allowed, some of the foregoing works must be omitted—and the course will, in some measure, be varied according to the State where the student purposes to practice.

The terms of instruction are $75 per annum, paid in half-yearly payments, embracing all charges. The use of Judge Thomson's Law Library, Text books, Stationary, Library rooms, and fuel, are furnished to the students without additional charge.

Membership in the Moot Court, to gentlemen who do not belong to the Law School, will be $15 per annum.

The Law School is distinct from College regulations, and is kept at Chambersburg.[5]

" Judge Thomson was one of the ablest civilians in the State, and his school, though never large, sent forth from time to time first-class lawyers, among whom were the Hon. Mr. Hendricks, the late Vice-President of the United States, and the Hon. John Scott, United States Senator." [6]

[5] *Catalogue of Officers and Students in Marshall College, 1837–38,* in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

[6] Appel, Theodore. " A Sketch of Marshall College . . . under the Presidency of Dr. Rauch." *Reformed Quarterly Review,* October, 1887, p. 533.

Almost from the beginning of the life of the college the trustees determined that Marshall College should have a building of its own. A committee to secure a site for this purpose was appointed on June 7, 1838 and in a few months reported that the members had viewed two sites, one on the property of William N. McKinstry, Esq., the other on the property of Mrs. Brownson across the village, on what is now called " the Avenue," about a half mile from Seminary Hill. Then the whole board made a tour of the surroundings of Mercersburg to select the site which they thought most suitable for the proposed college building. They decided that Mrs. Brownson's property should be purchased, provided it could be procured at $150 per acre, and the street be extended at Mrs. Brownson's expense. They also resolved that a building suitable for the preparatory department be erected on the ground authorized to be purchased for the use of Marshall College. The committee then entered into a contract with Mrs. Brownson for a tract of land containing fifteen acres, more or less, for the sum of $150 per acre.

Then the question arose as to which of the two edifices, the college or the preparatory school building, was to be erected first. At this time the board resolved that it would be more expedient to have a college edifice erected as soon as practicable, and that agents be appointed to secure funds for the college building.[7]

The ground was bought, $1000 were paid to Mrs. Brownson, and a mortgage was given for the balance. Mr. E. T. Lane reported a plan for the college edifice which was voted to be kept under consideration. Bids were received, and the board upon opening them resolved that " Whereas, the condition of the college fund does not allow our building at the cost offered by the bidders, the building committee be instructed to solicit proposals for a building of the same dimensions as will reduce the cost in some degree." At the same time the committee was " authorized to erect a building for the preparatory department if it be deemed most necessary, as also to build a college edifice if the funds be increased so as to justify the same." The committee was further instructed "to commence the building or buildings and make such provision for payment as in their judgment they may deem proper." The building committee and the faculty were given full power to adopt any plan and execute the whole or any part thereof. The treasurer reported $7956.43 available for building purposes.[8]

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[7] Minutes of the Board of Trustees, in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College. The entry is dated September 24, 1839.

Six months later the committee reported that they had contracted for the building and finishing according to specifications of a house for the preparatory department. The financial agent, B. C. Wolff, stated that the amount subscribed for building purposes was over $20,000. Then, upon motion of Judge Alexander Thomson, it was decided that the necessary arrangements be made for the erection of a college edifice and also for the erection of a professor's house on the new college grounds for the use of Professor Budd, as soon as the financial committee should deem the funds of the college sufficient to warrant its erection.[9]

Then two events occurred in rapid succession that complicated the building situation. The first was the burning of the old frame structure in the town in which the preparatory department was housed. This was early in January 1841. The second was the death of Dr. Rauch early in March. A third complication then arose, due to the fact that the Board of Trustees was compelled to buy from the former Treasurer of the College "the tavern-stand [now the Mansion House] with an additional out-lot of ground." The property was conveyed to the trustees of Marshall College bearing the date of January 1, 1841, and was rented for $250 per annum. It became known as the Marshall Hotel and as such was rented and later offered for sale by the trustees of the college. It was purchased by John H. Murphy in 1845 and the name was changed to Mansion Hotel.

Meanwhile the preparatory building and a professor's house were erected, both on the new college plot. The residence was built for Professor Budd and after his death was occupied successively by Dr. John W. Nevin and Dr. Thomas G. Apple. " Professor Budd is said to have designed the lawn and the gardens. On the lawn was a large circle of boxwood, in the center of which stood a fir tree. In the garden in the rear were box alleys resembling the formal English gardens of that period." [10] Stables were also built for the use of Professor Budd and the preparatory department. Then the literary society halls were built on the college grounds, but the expediency of erecting a college edifice was referred time and again for final action to the finance and building committees.

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[8] *Ibid.*, May 20, 1840.

[9] *Ibid.*, September 29, 1840.

In the proceedings of the Board of Trustees one finds resolutions to the effect that a suitable fence is to be made so as to enclose the preparatory building, and that no wagons, horses or cattle shall in the future be allowed to come within the front campus of the Seminary Building, and that the college grounds be graded and enclosed with a post and rail fence like the ground around Professor Budd's house, and that $1000 worth of brick for the building of a church for the use of the Reformed congregation at Mercersburg be given by the college, provided the congregation raise $3000 for the same object.[11]

In 1840 the following articles appeared in public print:

(1)

TO CONTRACTORS!

THE UNDERSIGNED, in behalf of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, will receive sealed proposals until 10 o'clock on *Saturday evening, the 4th of April next,* for the erection of a large College Edifice, to be built of brick, in a plain, substantial manner. The plan and specifications of the building can be seen at any time by calling on the subscriber, or on WILLIAM METCALFE. The lumber &c. &c. to be procured during the present year, and the building to be commenced early in the Spring of 1841. The contract to be given to the best and lowest bidder, who will be required to give good responsible security, that he will do the work agreeably to the Article and Specification.

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[10] *Old Mercersburg.* New York, 1912, p. 39.

[11] Minutes of the Board of Trustees, Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College. Entries found *passim.*

ELLIOTT T. LANE,
Chairman of the Building Com.[12]

Mercersburg, Pa., March 11, 1840.

(2)

MARSHALL COLLEGE

The friends of this institution will be gratified to learn, that its prospects have at no period been so promising as at present. We had occasion to be in Mercersburg on the first day of the opening of the Winter Session, and were informed by one of the Trustees, that between 25 and 30 new students had already then arrived. The spacious Seminary Edifice, which is at present occupied by the College students, is filled to overflowing. We presume this fact alone (if no other) was a sufficient reason to the Trustees of the College, for resolving upon the erection of a College edifice forthwith, which we are happy to say, has been done. The *design* of the building, which we understand to have been adopted, was drawn by Mr. Krauser of Reading, and is one of the most beautiful specimens we ever beheld; and if carried out, as it doubtless will, will be one of the most exquisite structures, so far as chasteness of appearance and convenience of arrangement are concerned, of which we have any knowledge.[13]

(3)

MARSHALL COLLEGE

Two general objects, comprehended in the design of this Institution, occupy at this time the attention of its Board of Trustees—the erection of the necessary edifices for the *College* proper, and the erection of a suitable building for the *Preparatory Department*. Which of these objects should be considered most immediately necessary, may admit of some doubt. It has been concluded finally, however, by the Committee, to whose discretion the whole case is for the present entrusted, to go forward first with the building for the Preparatory Department. The reasons for this are on the whole satisfactory. The *want* for proper accommodations in this department is more directly pressing, than that which exists with regard to the College, which for the present finds room in the edifice of the Theological Seminary. And besides, the funds on hand are not of themselves sufficient to justify an *immediate* contract in the case of the college, which is the heavier part of the enterprise. For the academy, the resources of the Board are abundantly sufficient.

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[12] *Reformed Church Messenger,* March 11, 1840.

[13] *Ibid.,* November 25, 1840.

J. W. N.[14]

After the construction of the new preparatory school building the church began to concentrate its energies on the erection of a college building. The Reverend Samuel Miller was appointed agent and visited " the friends of religion and learning in the Counties of Union, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Berks, Schuylkil, Lehigh, and Northampton," in order to arouse the church to a renewed interest in education and to a self-consciousness that would inspire her entire organization to new life and vigor. Times were hard but determination was strong, as the following attests:

(1)

. . . There has been a very considerable accession to the number of students at the commencement of the present session. Twenty-three or four new students, have already been received, and others are still occasionally making their appearance. All this, moreover, is taking place even in the midst of the great pressure of the times, and whilst the neighboring Institutions, are complaining of a falling off with respect to numbers. If the additional accommodations in the way of buildings, &c. which all feel to be requisite, were to be provided, there is every reason to believe, that the additions to the number of students would be even still greater than they now are; and this consideration should furnish a strong inducement to the friends of the institution to make every possible effort to furnish the necessary additional buildings at as early a period as possible. *As hard as the times are,* it may still, in view of the particular circumstances of the case, be a question worthy of serious consideration by those to whom the subject is more immediately entrusted, whether immediate steps should not be taken towards furnishing what is so much needed and desired.[15]

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[14] *Ibid.*, June 10, 1840.

(2)

MARSHALL COLLEGE

At the late meeting of the Board of Trustees of this Institution, it was resolved to make a special effort to secure funds for the erection of a *College Building;* and the readers of the Messenger are already informed, that Mr. SAMUEL MILLER, a licentiate of the Lebanon Classis has been appointed an Agent to carry this purpose into effort. Mr. Miller is believed to be, in all respects, well qualified for the important service to which he is thus called. The most ample recommendations were laid before the Board. . . .

The funds to be collected in this case, are designed for a single and specific object. Not to support the professors; not to establish scholarships; not to buy books or philosophical apparatus; but to erect a *College Building.* The Institution has been in operation now six years, and still it is not provided with an Edifice, in which to conduct its operations. A very respectable building has been put up, it is true, for the accommodation of the Preparatory Department. But the College Proper has no building. Thus far it has occupied the edifice belonging to the Theological Seminary. The arrangement however was never designed to be more than temporary, and has come already to be attended with considerable inconvenience. In the nature of the case, the College should have a separate building, expressly for its own use. So it has been intended, from the beginning. The ground has been procured, for the purpose; and now the time has come, when the purpose ought by all means to be carried into effect. Every year that it is delayed, the institution must suffer. The Seminary and College can no longer be properly accommodated in one building. The College alone, if it continues to prosper, will before long require twice as much room for its accommodation. Another summer should not be suffered to pass without some progress being made in the erection of a new edifice.

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[15] *Ibid.,* December 7, 1842.

It is not expected to raise, in this effort, the whole amount that is needed to put up the College Building. It will require about twenty thousand dollars, to put up such a building as the wants of the institution demand. But only a part of this is required, to put it in the power of the Board to go forward with the work on this scale. Funds are already secured to the Institution, which to a certain extent may be applied to the object now in view. It is well known, that a considerable amount of money has been subscribed for the benefit of the College, in the course of the great Centenary effort with which the Church has been engaged for some time past; and some may wonder perhaps, why this should not be considered sufficient of itself for the erection of an edifice. It would be so, if it had been subscribed for that purpose. But those who have subscribed had the right of course to choose their own object in giving; and it so happens, that nearly the whole of what has been thus pledged, is in the form of *scholarships*. Now these are very important in their place. The hundred scholarships secured to Marshall College, can hardly fail to make it in the end a great institution. But it will not do, to take money so given and use it without any other funds in putting up a building. For every scholarship, the College is bound to give free tuition to one student. The hundred scholarships are bound in this way, forever, for a hundred students. The capital then must be kept in such a way that it will always yield interest; for how else could the current expenses of the College, so far as these hundred students are concerned be annually met? The Board would be unfaithful to the holders of scholarships then, if they should put up the College building entirely with their money. But if they can succeed in raising a certain amount separately for this object, it will be perfectly safe afterwards to make up the balance from the scholarship funds. The building, by means of room rents paid by students, will yield enough to cover the interest on a part of the investment it may require; and so far it will be safe and right, to invest scholarship funds in this way, but no farther. Thus the friends of the College will understand, how it is that a special effort is needed at this time to raise a separate fund for the purpose of erecting the College Edifice.

. . . . .

J. W. NEVIN,
President of the Board of Trustees
of Mar. Col.[16]

In spite of such strenuous effort on the part of the friends of the college the proposed building was never erected. Within two years of the plea made by Dr. Nevin, the literary societies were petitioning for ground on which to erect their own buildings and the enthusiasm that had been generated for a college edifice gradually dimmed. This may have been due to a number of reasons, not the least of which was the fluctuation in the number of the students and the diminishing income from tuition due to scholarships.

If the Trustees had erected a College building on the site originally intended for this purpose, instead of constructing a preparatory school building, and two Literary Society Halls, it is quite possible that the story of Marshall College would have been different. At least the desire for removal of the School would have been decreased, if the College students had been furnished with a home of their own.

From the catalogues of Marshall College we gather the following student list from 1837 to 1852, showing that the undergraduate peak was reached in 1845:

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[16] *Ibid.*, October 26, 1842.

STUDENT LIST[17]

	1837–38	'38–39	'39–40	'40–41	'41–42	'42–43	'43–44	'44–45	'45–46	'46–47	'47–48	'48–49	'49–50	'50–51	'51–52
Law Students	7	8	3	2		5	3	4	2	4	2				
Collegiate Students	54														
Preparatory Students	47	62	54	73		75	72	80	56	46	69	39			57
Theological Students		9												26	17
Undergraduate Students		47	48	66		74	69	102	109	96	81	79		65	
Resident Graduates			4	7		11	14	18	13	19	28	15			
Irregular Students			11												
Marshall Academy														51	
College Students															75
	108	126	120	148		165	158	204	180	165	180	133		142	149

These students came from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, New York, Michigan, and several of them from abroad. The following letter, written to the *Messenger* by its editor, B. S. Schneck, shows the widespread interest manifested in the college in days when communication was difficult:

"I was both surprised and pleased, to find, that our Literary and Theological Institution at Mercersburg seemed to be so well known in Ohio. An intelligent Merchant from the interior of Ohio, on learning that I was from Pennsylvania, immediately inquired of me whether I was acquainted with the present condition and prospects of *Marshall College?* and remarked, that he looked upon that Institution with a great deal of interest, as one calculated to do much in promoting the cause of Education &c., in Pennsylvania. Another gentleman, also from Ohio, made similar inquiries and expressed similar sentiments in regard to it. I did not expect, that our young College was known in this State, at least not beyond the pale of our own communion—but such is not the case, and it must be gratifying to all the friends of that flourishing Institution to know, that its character abroad, as well as at home, stands deservedly high in the estimation of the public." [18]

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[17] So far as can be ascertained, no catalogues were published covering the terms 1841–42 and 1849–50.

The outer history of the growth and development of Marshall College is the least important or successful aspect of its career. It had few buildings, a small campus, little material equipment. It ran its course in Mercersburg in a period of seventeen years. In that short time the institution received its charter, built up a substantial faculty under the leadership of two remarkable presidents, received its students from eight or ten different states, and attracted the attention of the scholarly world because of its original and aggressive thinking and because of the philosophical and theological discussions which, in various books and monographs, extended themselves far beyond the boundaries and confines of a small denomination or institution, "to elevate the point of view and broaden the horizon of American students of the constitution and history of the Church." [19]

It was a young college and a small college, with meagre external equipment, but it did create and develop a school of profound thinkers. When Marshall College united with Franklin College of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, it brought with it a tradition of scholarship and love of learning that has remained as an academic heritage to bless future generations of boys.

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[18] *Reformed Church Messenger,* August 24, 1842.

[19] Bacon, Leonard. *History of American Christianity.* New York, 1897.

CHAPTER XIII

Literary Activities

IN most of the sixty colleges of America in the early eighteen-forties literary societies had been established. They grew out of the debating clubs and the speaking clubs of the American colleges of the Revolutionary period in the latter part of the eighteenth century. College students centered their interest outside of the regular classroom work on the activities and rivalries of these organizations. Each society had developed its own *esprit de corps* and each student, sometimes even before he was matriculated in the college, enlisted as a champion of the preëminence of his society.

Nowhere in the history of American colleges does the activity and rivalry of the literary societies furnish a more interesting chapter than in the story of the Goethean and Diagnothian Societies at Marshall College. In fact, it looked for a time as if everything on the Mercersburg campus, including faculty and Board of Trustees, was controlled by the literary societies. Student self-expression is not a discovery of the twentieth century, as the following narrative will show.

When the eighteen students, eleven Goetheans and seven Diagnothians, arrived at Mercersburg in the fall of 1835 they at once showed intense activity. As the college prospered, the societies increased in membership and in hostility to each other. Within a few months of their arrival on Seminary Hill they decided to hold a contest. The Goethean Society had sent a communication to the Diagnothians, in the nature of a challenge, on November 20, 1835. The Diagnothian minutes for that date record the following action:

" After considerable discussion and mature deliberation it was on motion of Messrs. Gerhart and Kooken

"*Resolved,* That, as the members of the Goethean Literary Society think that it depends entirely upon us whether there be a contest or not next spring; and as we are unwilling to assume to ourselves that power, and also differ from them in opinion on this point, We therefore to avoid all further altercations on this subject, challenge the Goethean Literary Society to a contest, which shall be regulated by our articles of agreement."[1]

Apparently there was some difference of opinion as to where the contest should be held, and the matter was referred to President Rauch, who decided that the first contest should take place in the Reformed Church (see p. 77). The event took place at the close of the winter session, on Wednesday evening, March 30, 1836, at 6:30 o'clock.

The following is the description of an eye-witness:

The *contest,* as it has been termed, between the literary societies in connection with the institution, took place in the evening, in the presence of a large and respectable audience estimated at about seven hundred persons. A high state of anxiety seemed to prevail throughout this large assembly.

I think I never witnessed more interest manifested on any public occasion. The preparations made, indicated more than an ordinary display, which caused every pulse to beat high with expectation. The moment at length arrived which brought before the audience the competitors for literary honor, and I do assure you, the talent displayed on the occasion was of no ordinary grade, and might well boast a comparison with older institutions. The young gentlemen engaged in the contest acquitted themselves with great honor, and although the meed of praise was awarded to one of the societies, the other lost nothing in public estimation.

The exercises taken all together were highly interesting, and brought to view the immense advantage that is to be realized from the location of such an institution in the bosom of a community. The citizens of Mercersburg may well regard it as a new era in the history of their place, and should be prompted to extend to it all the patronage which it so justly merits.

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[1] The First Minutes of the Diagnothian Literary Society: June 11, 1835–March 13, 1838. In Diagnothian Literary Society MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

W.[2]

Maryland, April 12th, 1836.

The regular meetings of the societies were held in the prayer hall of the Seminary Edifice, and each society was made responsible for the condition of the hall after the weekly meeting. The programs of the meetings may be judged from a partial list of the subjects for debate used by one of the societies over a period of six months:

Which is the more injurious to mankind: superstition or infidelity?

Are criticisms beneficial?

Should the French remove the ashes of Napoleon to France?

Was the destruction of tea at Boston a politic measure?

Should Aaron Burr have been acquitted?

Does human life afford more pleasure than it causes pain?

Which has the more beneficial influence upon a community: wealth or knowledge?

Did the invasion of Spain by the Moors cause more good than evil?

Which has the most good within itself: a democratic or a monarchic form of government?

Should international copyrights be secured to authors by governments?

Is the study of the dead languages a necessary part of a liberal education?

Is poetic genius better developed in a semi-barbarian or a civilized state of society?

Is female society of more benefit or injury to students?

Is the complexion of the African race the result of natural causes, or is it the effect of an immediate act of God?

Would the United States be justifiable in the declaration of war against Great Britain?

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[2] *Reformed Church Messenger,* April 20, 1836.

Is the system of education pursued in the American literary institutions superior to that in the English Universities?

Is phrenology a science?

Do the signs of the times predict a speeding triumph of virtuous and moral principles in the world?

Were the Crusaders the cause of chivalry?[3]

"To secure a new student for either of the two societies, on the opening of a new session, between the members of each there was often an animated contest. On the pavement in front of the Mansion House, on the evening on which any new-comer was expected, were always stationed two sets of students, one from each society, awaiting his arrival; and no sooner had the stage-coach, in which he was contained, driven up in front, and the passengers were getting out, than toward it there was a general rush and then a spirited jostling of one another, each man striving to push aside his opponent and be the first to grasp the hand of his newly arrived future associate, as he hoped he would be, and give him a hearty welcome. In the end, when by one of these sets, not altogether through main force, to be sure, but through superior address and affability, he had been won over, to the great chagrin and disappointment of the other, with all courteousness by these triumphant fellows was he escorted up to the college, where, by them, he was politely shown into a well-furnished room, and informed that, if such was his pleasure, this room should thereafter always be called his own, with a suitable chum annexed; and for two or three days afterward, while settling himself down into his new abode, some of them kept almost constantly at his side, using every means to make him feel comfortable and at home, showing him through the building, meeting his every want, and acquainting him with all the peculiar ways of the college; but, without his ever suspecting it, he was all the while strictly watched by them and carefully kept from holding any communication whatever with any member of the opposite society; until, on the coming

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[3] Minutes of the Diagnothian Literary Society, *passim*. Diagnothian MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

Saturday, his assent having been previously secured, he was safely introduced and initiated into the profound mysteries of their own.

"Occasionally, however, some spirited greenhorn, on his first arriving among the students before the inn, on a very dark night, would suddenly bolt; thus leaving both parties in the lurch. Finding himself, on alighting from the stage coach, thus unceremoniously grasped, his right hand by one set of fellows and his left hand by another, and feeling himself thus almost torn asunder by them, he would fancy he had certainly fallen among a band of thieves and robbers, and fearing that before they left him they would absolutely have him drawn and quartered, by a desperate effort he would suddenly tear himself loose from both parties, and, escaping to the inn, he would there secure himself in an upper chamber, where he would sometimes remain for several days without venturing to come abroad.

"What, however, was considered the neatest way of capturing a new student was to take him on the wing. This was done by a few wary fellows, all of one society, who anticipating his arrival, would, without the knowledge or observance of their opponents, betake themselves off through the woods stealthily and by themselves, to meet the stage-coach in which they knew he was coming, while it was yet several miles out of town. In becoming aware of the first approach of such human game, even while it was yet at a very great distance, no previous information having been received, it is wonderful what a faculty was possessed by some. In them it amounted to an intuition." [4]

When the societies were fully established another method was employed by the electioneers:

"The party would be clad merely in the customary dress of their own society, in their blue hunting shirts or their green cassocks; and rambling abroad through the woods with their cross-bows or fowling-pieces in hand, as if on a little hunting excursion, and perhaps with a few pheasants or squirrels in their game-bags, on the coming along of the machine of Captain Guyer, or the old stage coach of Arnold Brooks, returning slowly from Chambersburg, with a good supply of fresh students in it, they would contrive, suddenly and as if meeting it by accident, to come bounding forth from the woods upon it, in the highest glee; and familiarly accosting the driver they would ask him to be taken in; which being accorded them, so diligently on the way would they ply their new associates with their old college songs and later hunting stories as to succeed fully in establishing themselves in their good graces; so that on coming to town these would be associated with them on the most intimate terms, and have no disposition whatever to leave them.

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[4] Nevin, William M. "Sobersides Papers," in *College Days* [Franklin and Marshall College], March, 1874.

"But how provoking it was to a party, after their game had thus been fairly taken and perhaps kept by them for several days, to find that it had been previously tampered with by some intriguing members of the opposition; that, in fact, long before, while their young buck was still ranging in the park of some academy far away, by these sly fellows, through a correspondence commenced with him there, had he been already, in a measure, appropriated, his promise having been secured to them by letters that on his coming to college he would certainly join their society. To his captors, then, after having ushered him around and introduced him to all their associates, and perhaps after having had him properly smoked and seasoned, and every thing done to make him ready for being initiated into their society, how mortifying it was to have served upon themselves suddenly and unexpectedly a writ of *habeas corpus,* and instead of having their prize securely mounted on their own goat . . . to see him borne away by his lawful owners triumphantly toward their own hall." [5]

The societies formed a real fellowship for the students. The meetings were secret as those of a Masonic lodge. To divulge the business of the society meant discipline, expulsion, and practical ostracism. At the death of a member each of his fellow-members wore a crêpe scarf on the left arm for thirty days. Dr. Bausman relates in his diary that when the members of the senior class took leave from the Goethean Literary Society with a short address by each member, the scene was very affecting; sometimes half the members were in tears and some of the speakers were so much moved that it was difficult for them to proceed.[6]

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[5] *Ibid.*

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held on September 26, 1843, one of the societies petitioned for ground for a hall. This petition was the result of several years' agitation among the members of both societies. The students were encouraged by the faculty of the institution in their ambitions for the building of halls for the two societies. This was especially true of Dr. John W. Nevin, who moved in the meeting of the Board of Trustees that $500 be given to each literary society for the erection of separate halls, on condition that each society raise $3500 toward the same object. The halls were to be erected on college land, so as to form wings to the college edifice when erected. Dr. Nevin doubtless had in mind the literary society halls at Princeton.

Meanwhile another factor entered into the situation. It appears that in ambitious haste to erect a college building certain members of the Board of Trustees assumed the authority of making a contract to buy as large a quantity of brick as in their opinion would be necessary for the erection of such a structure. The brick was delivered to the college grounds in the south end of town, and when it was found that the institution did not have enough money to proceed with the building the trustees ordered the brick to be covered with boards. This is probably the reason why the Board of Trustees at its April meeting in 1844 decided to appropriate to the Diagnothian and Goethean Literary Societies, not $500 as previously agreed upon, but $1000 worth of brick, at the rate of $5 per thousand. As has been noted (p. 221) another thousand dollars' worth of brick was given by the Board for the erection of a new building for the Reformed Church at Mercersburg.

[6] MS. Diary of Benjamin Bausman, under date of August 4, 1849. In the archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church, Lancaster, Penna.

There was one main condition upon which the two society halls could be built, and that was that they must be exactly alike in external appearance. The general design of both halls was Grecian; the idea was that they should be temples devoted to the Muses. Each was to be two stories high, with a wide portico extending along the whole width of the front and six massive columns with highly ornamental Ionic capitals. The lower story had a large ante-room, and then came the long library of the society on one side and a similar room for a museum on the other. The main hall was on the second floor. In the decoration of this meeting-hall each society showed its distinctive life and genius. In the fresco painting the Goetheans chose the Muses, and the Diagnothians the old poets and philosophers.

"The Goethean Hall was built first; and it was found that the proportions in the finished auditorium, though ample for present use, were not elegant and symmetrical in looks. Taking this into account, in order to avoid a similar mistake, the Diagnothians resolved to add five feet to the length of their proposed hall. This intention was made public by unwise party boasting, and was hence strenuously resisted in stout protest to the Faculty and Board of Trustees, on the part of the Goetheans. The main reason given in formal pretext was because it would break the compact requiring the externals of both halls to be alike; but really, and in fact, because it would be a permanent advantage to the Diagnothians, who claimed that they should not be made to suffer disadvantage to their hall during the ages for the mistake already made in the hall of their rivals. The only way to meet the issue was either to take five feet off the foundation of the Diagnothian hall foundation now already begun, or to add five feet to the Goethean hall, just finished. The Goetheans were stubbornly punctillious as to the existing lawful agreement, and the Diagnothians fiercely unyielding as to the benefit so easy to get. The absolute size of the halls had not been fixed when the Goetheans built theirs. But the irresistible had met the immovable. A small rebellion began.

"Nightly parades to a man, of the opposing parties, for some time made the town streets lively. General public sympathy as well as common reason seemed to be with the Diagnothians. This made them bold. War was declared. "FIVE FEET OR NO HALL," was pasted up. Work on the building, however, was stopped. Dr. Nevin sent for the Building Committee and the leaders. If he and they had been more reasonable a wiser conclusion might have been more easily reached. As it was, it nearly cost the college sixty-five students on the Diagnothian roll. The ultimatum was: *Sub*-mission or *dis*-mission. Better judgment through friendly influence finally prevailed. Peace was restored in great humiliation but without loss of dignity or self-respect, and the halls in external measurement were built alike; but the Diagnothians got good stone steps solidly built and fluted columns with highly ornamental carved capitals. This made the Diagnothian Hall cost about fifteen hundred dollars more than the plainer Hall at the southern end of the college grounds. The wooden steps of the Goetheans soon fell down, and by accident the Hall itself later was burned to ashes."[7]

The precise action taken by the Board of Trustees at a special meeting called on May 29, 1845 "to take into consideration the difficulty which has arisen with regard to the Society halls" was recorded in the minutes, thus:—

> On motion, the Building Committee of the Diagnothian Society were invited to attend and give an explanation of the grounds of the difficulty between the societies in relation to the Halls—and did attend. Mr. Metcalf appeared and took his seat. The Building Committee of the Goethean Society were also invited and appeared. After hearing the explanation given by each committee separately it was moved to have a recess to examine the Halls after which the Board returned and came to order. After taking all the difficulties under mature consideration it was on motion of Mr Smith & Mr Carson, Resolved, That a committee consisting of Drs. Nevin, Little, and Mr Carson was appointed to draw up a preamble

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[7] Russell, *op. cit.*, pp. 67–8.

and resolution embodying the opinion and decision of the Board whereupon the following was read and being first passed separately were adopted in whole unanimously as its final action, viz:

It appear'd clearly to the Board that " the principle was firmly established and had been distinctly announced in the beginning, that the two Society Halls were to be externally of the same size and plan, constituting parallel wings to the main College edifice; and all appropriations which have been made in aid of the object were granted with this understanding. In these circumstances the Board feel that they have no right to acquiesce in the arrangement, by which it has been proposed recently on the part of the Diagnothian Society to add five feet to the length of their building, as compared with the original plan. At the same time the Board have been satisfied that the Society has not intended any want of respect to the government of the College in claiming the right to make this change on its own separate authority. The error has resulted from looking at the whole matter as a transaction lying simply between the two societies, whereas this relation is in fact of small account, as compared with the relation of each Society in the business to the authority of the college.

The Board consider it proper again on the other hand to require, that the departure of the Goethean Society from the original plan in the case of the side door be rectified in like manner. This took place, it is true, with the knowledge and consent of the faculty, as being considered a mere circumstantial and not an essential change. Still it is sufficient to injure seriously the Symmetry of the two buildings, and must be regarded in this view as a violation of the principle on which the Board started. The case is one at the same time that can be corrected with very little inconvenience. In view then of all these considerations it is now resolved

1 That the Board cannot consent to the alteration by which the Diagnothian Society has proposed to add five feet to the length of its Hall, as at first settled, but must request the Society to abide at this point strictly by the original plan, as having its authority not in a contract simply between the

societies as such, but in the will and ordinance of the Board itself.

2 That the Goethean Society be requested in a like manner to conform to the same plan as it respects the door on the side facing the other Hall, provided the Diagnothian Society persists in preferring this arrangement to the window which has been substituted for the door in the Hall as it now stands.

3 That the damage growing out of these blunders on fair valuation, be sustained by this Board; on the ground that the Board or its organs may not have been sufficiently prompt and firm at every point in its transactions with the Societies, and because also the wrong steps which have been taken are considered to have been the result of mistake simply, and not of any intentional or wilful disregard to the authority of the college.

4 That the Board distinctly reassert the principle, proclaimed in the beginning, that the Halls are required to be externally alike in their size and form, and must consider it irregular therefore in time to come for either society to allow any variation from the common plan without the knowledge and consent either of the Faculty or the Building Committee of the college.[8]

The ceremonies incident to the cornerstone-laying and the dedication of the halls were events of high importance in the life of the institution and of the community, as the following documents indicate:

(1)

LAYING A CORNER STONE

The Corner Stone of a Hall for the use of the Goethean Literary Society of Marshall College, we are informed, will be laid at Mercersburg, Pa., on the 28th of August next, the birthday of Goethe, in honor of whom the Society has been named. David Paul Brown, Esqr., of Philadelphia, is expected to deliver an address on the occasion. The friends of our Institutions will be rejoiced at this intelligence, and especially when they learn from a notice contained in the present number, that a similar announcement with respect to the other Literary Society connected with the College, may also be soon expected. These movements are all indications of the growing prosperity of our Institutions. The above occasion cannot fail to be an interesting one. The circumstances connected with it, are themselves, sufficient to render it such; and an additional interest will probably be given to it by the contemplated address. Mr. Brown's popularity as a public speaker is well known, and will of itself be sufficient to induce crowds to assemble for the purpose of hearing him. His acceptance of the invitation to deliver the address has been announced in the most of the city papers.[9]

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[8] Minutes of the Board of Trustees, in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

(2)

GOETHEAN HALL

Mr. Editor:

You are aware that for some time past the Literary Societies of Marshall College have been making efforts, to erect for themselves Halls, which shall in every respect, meet the wants and purposes of such societies. The enterprise has met with considerable opposition from different quarters by persons who conceived it to be a great piece of extravagance, for the Literary Societies of *Marshall College* to attempt to put up Halls for themselves, when similar associations of other Colleges were content to meet in rooms assigned them in their College Buildings. But the students of Marshall College thought otherwise and were not to be discouraged in their undertaking in this way. They have continued their exertions in the same enthusiastic spirit in which they were commenced., and their efforts have been so far crowned with success, that the Goethean Society has found herself justifiable in erecting her Hall at once. I have no doubt that many persons have been startled at the notice that has been already given of the laying of the corner stone of the Goethean Hall on the 28th of the present month; but such is the fact, and the Society has secured for that occasion the services of David Paul Brown Esq., a gentleman distinguished for his abilities as a public speaker.

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[9] *Reformed Church Messenger,* July 31, 1844.

The enterprise is certainly one of great magnitude, and altogether unparalleled in the history of Colleges. The Buildings will not be ordinary affairs. The plan which has been adopted by the Societies, (for both buildings will be after the same style externally) is a beautiful Ionic structure 40 feet front, 60 feet back, and two stories high. The lower rooms are to contain the Library, Cabinet and Museum etc. The Hall intended for the meeting of the Society is to be on the second floor. The whole cost is estimated at about $5000.

The noble enthusiasm in which this enterprise has been conceived and thus far carried forward cannot fail to secure ultimate and entire success. Had any one of your readers who entertains doubts on this subject, been in Mercersburg a few weeks since, and taken the trouble of a walk to the College grounds, he would have been convinced that a Society, *whose members were not afraid or ashamed to dig the foundation for their Hall,* could not but succeed in an enterprise like this.

Mercersburg, Aug. 14, 1844[10]

(3)

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE

Wednesday last was indeed an important day in the history of Marshall College. The ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Hall of the Goethean Literary Society took place at that time, agreeably to previous announcement. It was our privilege to be present during the day, and we felt highly gratified with all that we witnessed. At 11 o'clock in the morning, the students of the College and honorary members of both Literary Societies present, together with the faculty of the College, formed in procession in front of the Seminary buildings, and preceded by a band of Music, proceeded thence to the site of the contemplated Hall. The ceremony of laying the corner stone was performed by Dr. Nevin, who after a few explanatory remarks, deposited in the box enclosed in the corner stone, at the direction of the Society, the following articles, viz: 1, A copy of the Bible; 2, a copy of the Catalogue of the Society; 3, a copy of the Catalogue of the College; 4, a copy of the Constitution of the Society; 5, a list of the contributors towards the erection of the Hall; 6, a silver badge of the Society; 7, a President's badge of the Society; 8, a common badge of the Society; 9, a brief sketch of the enterprise of erecting the Hall; 10, a copy of the "Weekly Messenger"; 11, a copy of the "Christliche Zeitschrift"; 12, a copy of the "New York Observer"; 13, a copy of the "United States Gazette"; 14, a copy of "The Globe"; 15, a copy of the "Mercersburg Visiter"; 16, various American coin. The whole ceremony was concluded by the Rev. Dr. Nevin with prayer. The company then proceeded to the adjoining grove, where a stage and seats had been erected for the accommodation of the speakers and the audience. Here the concourse of people was exceedingly great. More than a thousand persons were present, and amongst them we recognized many who had come a considerable distance. The whole scene plainly evidenced the immense interest which the occasion had been the means of exciting. The exercises in the grove were opened by a poem in the German language, on the character of Goethe, which was pronounced in a most happy manner by the Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, the professor recently called from Germany, to a chair in the Theological Seminary. The poem was full of poetic fire, and was exceedingly appropriate to the occasion, as the Society, the corner stone of whose Hall, had just been laid, received its name in honor of Goethe, and the day itself was Goethe's own birth day.

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[10] *Ibid.,* August 21, 1844.

The principal speaker of the occasion, who was present by special invitation, was David Paul Brown, Esq., of Philadelphia. He succeeded Dr. Schaff, and entertained the audience for about an hour in his usually happy and eloquent style. He first briefly adverted to the character of Goethe as a scholar, and then dwelt more at length, upon the importance and necessity of thoroughness in a literary education. He closed his address with some excellent remarks in the way of advice to the young men of the Institution, for whose benefit particularly he seemed especially desirous of improving the occasion. We were much pleased with the practical tendency of the whole performance, a quality which is but too often wanting in addresses on similar occasions. As it will, in all probability, be published, we do not deem it necessary to enter further into particulars.

In the afternoon an address was delivered in the German Reformed Church by Professor Wm. M. Nevin. His subject was "The Fine Arts." The production was an excellent one, and well deserves to be given to the public in a substantial form.

A lecture was delivered in the Church in the evening by David Paul Brown, Esq., on "The ruling passion." We were not privileged to be present, but have been told that the lecture was a highly interesting one. Thus closed the exercises of an occasion which will doubtless constitute an important era in the history of Mercersburg and of the Institutions located there. All, who feel interested in their prosperity, have abundant occasion to rejoice, and should feel themselves encouraged to go vigorously forward with every thing that may be deemed necessary to make them every thing they are desired to be.[11]

(4)

CORNER STONE

The corner stone of the Hall of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College will be laid on the 4th of July next; the exercises to commence at 10 o'clock A. M. An address suitable for the occasion will be delivered by Prof. L. W. Green, D. D., of Alleghany City. On the afternoon of the same day the Diagnothian Literary Society will also celebrate her 10th anniversary by her usual annual exhibition. The performances will consist of a Prologue, six original orations, and a Colloquy. From the known abilities and attainments of the Rev. Dr. Green, together with the character of the productions for society's exhibition, the Committee feels confident, that the exercises of the day will prove deeply interesting. The public is respectfully invited to attend.

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[11] *Ibid.*, September 4, 1844.

WM. GRAFIUS
WM. M. HALL
J. G. WIESTLING
Committee of
D. L. Society[12]

(5)

GOETHEAN LITERARY SOCIETY OF MARSHALL COLLEGE AND HER HALL

It will be remembered by those, who are acquainted with German poets, (and what lover of poetry is there who is not?) that the 28th of August is noted as the birth-day of the immortal Goethe, the "Patriarch of German literature." On this day 1749, at Frankfort on the Main, this "Prince of Poets" was ushered into the world, and what man is there, whose soul is susceptible of the sublime transports of poetic imagery as contained in the "Sorrows of Werther," "Faust," and "Wilhelm Meister's apprenticeship," who does not admire with ecstasy this great and towering genius? This is the man, in whose honor, one of the Literary Societies of Marshall College is proud to be named, and it is her exalted aim, never to disgrace his illustrious character, by unworthy deeds, but to show herself deserving of the mighty principles which conducted him to the highest pinnacle of human glory. And if the past affords any evidence of a future exalted destiny, by deeds of superior worth and magnanimity, then certainly she has every encouragement to press forward with undiminished vigor, in the bright career, she has hitherto made. But it is not my purpose to eulogize Goethe or the Society named after him, but to say something about her doings on the 28th of August last, her noted anniversary.

The friends of Marshall College need scarcely be reminded, that the two literary Societies connected with it, have been engaged for the last few years in erecting Halls for themselves respectively. The enterprise was first conceived and proposed by the Rev. Dr. Nevin during the winter of 1843, and the Societies having well considered the project, first entered upon its execution, by soliciting funds, during the spring vacation of the same year. The effort was quite successful, though not to the extent, which our sanguine hopes led us to anticipate; but by continued exertion through several subsequent vacations the Goethean Literary Society felt herself justifiable to commence the erection of her Hall. The work went slowly but steadily forward from that time until the present session, when it was finally completed. To enter into detail on the numerous and embarrassing difficulties, which occurred from time to time during this undertaking, would be to rehearse, what the experience of our friends, who have been engaged in similar enterprise, has long since taught them. Suffice it to say, that it cost the Society no little of care and anxiety.

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[12] *Ibid.*, July 2, 1845.

On the above named day, she took formal possession of her new Hall. The weather was unusually pleasant, and a slight rain during the previous night completely allayed the dust, so that the inconvenience, arising from it to large processions, was entirely obviated. The exercises of the day were commenced at 9 o'clock, A.M., by forming the procession in the Campus before the Seminary Edifice. A Band of excellent music led the way; then came the speaker supported by two members of the Society; next was the Faculty of the College; afterwards followed the Goethean Literary Society headed by Honorary members and her Officers. The procession thus arranged moved down Seminary Street, then up Front Street to the end of town, and from thence directly to the Hall which is handsomely situated on a hill, near a pleasant grove, on the southern side of the village. The Hall was tastefully furnished on the occasion with a stage carpeted, sofas, settees and chairs.

The Rev. J. W. Nevin, D.D., delivered the dedicatory speech. After congratulating the Society, on having successfully terminated her responsible undertaking, he said of the Hall, that it is: " A structure truly, that may be said to be worthy in all respects of its own lofty title; and which Goethe himself might well have been proud to acknowledge, as an ornament to his world-wide fame, in this distant section of the earth." Then after speaking of the magnitude of the enterprise and the difficulties which necessarily had to be encountered, and the praise due to the members of the Society for having happily surmounted them all by their energy, together with the reward which this work carries with it both to the Society and to the members individually, as well as to the College of which the Society is an important part in connection with many other points which cannot now be mentioned, he proceeded to dedicate the Hall.

He first dedicated it to the "genius of *Cleanliness* and *Order;*" secondly, to the spirit of "*Good Breeding* and *Manly Honorable Deportment;*" thirdly, "to the sacred power of *Friendship and Spiritual Brotherhood;*" fourthly, that it should be "sacred in all time to come, to the cause of *Knowledge* and *Intellectual Improvement;*" "but above all," he said in the fifth place, "we will dedicate it, in the fear of God, to the services of *Virtue* and *Religion.*" The latter part of his remarks on this last object of dedication are so excellent, that the writer cannot forbear quoting them entire. After showing that Science and Religion are not enemies, but friends, he says, "We will hear of no war then between letters and religion. We will have no infidel science, no godless philosophy. We will offer gifts and vows at no heathen shrine. On the contrary, we require Apollo and all his train, to make room for that true Sun of Righteousness, whose light has burst upon the world in the glorious gospel of the Blessed God. We will honor the Muses, only as they are willing to do homage to Christ. Let this Hall therefore, we repeat, be sacred to the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Let your motto, "*Genestho Phos,*" be made to encircle the cross, the holy symbol of the Christian faith; and so let it be inscribed as a wreath of celestial light on the capital of every column that adorns your portico; and so let it float perpetually, as a sacred *labarum* in every literary enterprise, above your heads, the clear index at once of the course you are called to pursue, and the divine pledge of your success in the end.

" May God, the Father of light, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, the Fountain of all wisdom and truth and virtue, own and accept your work, crown it with his blessing, and cause it to serve in large measure, through long years to come, the high and glorious interests, to which in his name it has been dedicated."

Thus was the Goethean Hall set apart to the cause of letters and religion. May it never become silent and deserted, but may its halls ever be crowded by an eager throng in the pursuit of wisdom, that the object had in view in its erection, may eminently be subserved! And shall we not hope, that those, who stood among us as Goetheans in days gone by, and some of whom had the honor at its beginning of assisting to rear our chaste and noble edifice, will exert themselves to send hither many, who will become ornaments to Marshall College, to our land, and above all to the Goethean Literary Society? There is ample room for the increase of our Library, to which, all who are in the remotest way connected with the Society, should feel it a duty and a privilege to contribute, as I doubt not is the case. And then also, the infant state of our Cabinet of minerals and curiosities, demands especial attention, and we should be glad to receive additions to it, from all who have the inclination and the ability to aid in this department. The Hall of the Diagnothian Literary Society will soon be completed, and I am quite sure that all her members, Honorary and Regular, will spare no efforts or means, to render it, in every respect, an ornament of the Society and of the College. And I rejoice most heartily that she is actuated with such a glorious zeal, and instead of envying, I would emulate her activity and infuse a similar energy, if possible into every Goethean who is wanting in this respect. Let then, the Goethean Society not be found behind, or her Hall be any thing less than what it deserves to be! Let its Library, its Cabinet, and those for whom it has been reared, constantly increase, which undoubtedly will be the case, if its friends only bestir themselves as they should! Finally, let it become all, what an eminent and learned friend of the Goethean

Literary Society so elegantly expressed in a *Sonnet* on the day of the laying of its corner stone!

> "Rise, Hall of Letters! worthy of thy name,
> Foretok'ning well, and the aspiring minds
> Whose is the noble deed of thy high aim,
> Whose the outpouring praise their ardor finds.
> Stand, Goethean Hall! tho' 'mid the rudest winds
> And day by day o'erspread with clouded skies;—
> Stand tho' 'mid all that aye benumbs and blinds,
> A pledge of contest for the scholar's prize!
> Stand a fit way-mark of our country's rise
> In the career of Liberty and Lore:
> And on thy walls let ne'er Hell's breath disguise
> The richness of the Reformation's store,
> Oh! long may minds here choose their chiefest aim,
> Here be their starting goal; their end be—Goethe's fame."

In the afternoon at 2 o'clock the procession again formed at the same place and in the same order as in the morning, and proceeded to the Hall for the purpose of hearing the annual address by the Rev. Dr. Schaff. His theme was the "Divina Commedia" of Dante, the chief of Italian poets. In this "allegorical and didactic poem," is described, "an imaginary visit of Dante, conducted by Virgil, to Hell, to Purgatory, and to Heaven, or Paradise; with a description of each, and of its inhabitants, founded partly on Mythology, but principally on the dogmas of the Roman Catholic religion." Dr. Schaff was graceful, as usual, in his manner, and remarkably fluent in his language. If he continues the rapid progress, he has hitherto made in the pronunciation of the English language, it will be difficult, in a few years, to recognize, from his speech that he is a native of the Fatherland. Whilst it would be a matter of sincere regret to see him lay aside his *language* and *nationality,* it must be a subject of heartfelt gratification to his numerous friends, that he is able, with such remarkable ease, not only to speak the English language, but to assume the habits and customs of America—the country of his adoption.

W. P. K.[13]

(6)

DEDICATION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the friends of learning generally, that the Hall of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College, will be dedicated on the 2nd of July, at 10 o'clock A.M. From the known character and standing of the gentleman selected to deliver the address on the occasion, an interesting time may fairly be anticipated.

All who have formerly been regular members and all who are at present honorary members of the Society together with all those who have contributed to the erection of the Hall building, are respectfully invited to be present on the occasion.

R. BROWNSON
D. GANS
D. SNIVELY
Com. of Pub.[14]

(7)

The Committee of Arrangement for the " Dedication " of the Diagnothian Hall would submit the following report—an epitome of their transactions. That a " notice " of invitation has been published in the neighboring periodicals, to " Donors Ex and Honorary Members." That a committee will be in readiness for the special reception of the orator of the day. That our gala day, for the purpose of union, good feeling and glory in the attainment of letters with our contemporaries, be adorned by their presence. That the " College Band " be requested to " accent sweet sounds " on the occasion. The procession will form on the morning 2nd at 10 o'clock in the following order.

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[13] *Ibid.,* September 9, 1846.

[14] *Ibid.,* June 30, 1847.

First —College Band
Second —Orator supported by the President of Society
Third —Faculty
Fourth —Contractors of the Hall
Fifth —Honorary Members of the D. L. Society
Sixth —Ex officio Members
Seventh—Donors to the Hall
Eighth —Members of the D. L. Society headed by their officers
Ninth —Honorary Members of the G. L. Society
Tenth —Members of the G. L. Society headed by their officers

The committee will make it their duty to supply an ample number of seats on that occasion and are exceedingly grieved that temporary arrangements have to be fitted up in lieu of Sofas, Brussels carpet, and Gallery of fine arts.

Submitted with all due respect by order of the comm.

P. M. SHEIBLEY,
Chairman[15]

Marshall College June 16th 1847

The halls having been built, the societies now turned their attention to the question of rules and regulations. The following letters, now printed for the first time, throw an interesting light upon the activities of the Goetheans and Diagnothians at this time.

(1)

The committee appointed three weeks since, for the purpose of procuring stoves and wood for the use of Society would, very respectfully, beg leave to report.

Your committee has rented two stoves from Mr. James Wilkins, which are now placed in this Hall; for the use of which Mr. Wilkins asks two dollars and fifty cents per stove, making five dollars. We have also purchased one cord of hickory wood from Weber, Zellers & Co. for which they ask two dollars and fifty cents.

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[15] Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

We procured an individual to cut up the wood and store it away in the apartment, beneath the portico of the Hall, designed for that purpose; for which services the Treasurer of Society paid eighty seven and a half cents to the person doing the work.

Your committee succeeded, it is believed, in getting, after considerable difficulty, a cord of excellent wood, and also in having it made ready for the use of Society, in such a manner as is desirable.

If however, your committee, after exercising its judgment, and after having acted as it best knew how, should happen to have committed any fault whatever, the members of the Society, we hope, will not attribute it to anything, save to our having acted in accordance with our judgment and ability. All of which is most respectfully submitted to the consideration of Society.

WILLIAM M. DEATRICK
HENRY JACOBY
FRISBY S. NEWCOMER[16]

Diagnothian Hall
November 13th 1847

(2)

The Committee appointed to draw up Resolutions relative to the future management of our Hall, would beg leave respectfully to submit the following report:—

First—The Committee is of the opinion that "Rules and Regulations" should be adopted by Society, so that the Hall may be preserved in a manner becoming her.

Second—The Committee, feeling the importance of such "Rules and Regulations," did not deem it prudent to offer any to the consideration of Society, because the Hall is not yet completed, and hence knows not what may be best for her to adopt. No clear idea of the Rules Society may want can be formed until the Hall is completed, which will not be long, and after possession has been taken. She may then see what Rules she may have need to adopt.

[16] *Ibid.*

Third—The Committee scarcely knows what to say respecting the Rules relating to the exposure of our Room to Members of the other Society. It is an important step, and Society cannot exercise too much caution and prudence in the matter. Members of this body may wish to show their independence by passing Laws which perhaps would forever shut the doors of our Hall upon Members of the other Society, and that too when they would be willing to extend the hand of friendship towards us and throw open their doors and permit our Members to enter. Besides, should Society adopt Resolutions prohibiting Members of the other Society from entering it, she could not show that friendship towards them, at the dedication of the Hall, which they showed towards us. However, be these things as they may, present circumstances urge Society to take some action in this matter, at least for the present time. It is understood that they intend to have their Hall frescoed, and that they boasted that they would examine ours, and take from it whatever they would consider neat, and that they would make additions and improvements wherever they could, and thus endeavor to surpass our Hall, in point of appearance, and then as a matter of course, open wide their doors, and permit new students and others to enter, with the expectation of captivating them, and thus give the new student an inducement to connect himself with their Society. But against such procedure, the Committee is of the opinion, that Society should enter her protest. If they wish to surpass our Hall, let them do it without having ours for a model, and then if they succeed, all the honor will belong to them. The Society, in the opinion of the Committee, has no other alternative than to prohibit their members from examining ours, and the Committee would therefore offer to the consideration of Society the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That no Member of this Society be permitted to take any of the Regular or Honorary Members of the Goethean Society into our Hall; and that the Hall Committee be requested, forthwith, to order our workmen not to open the door for the admission of any of the Regular or Honorary Members of the G. L. Society.

Lastly. The work which the Committee was expected to do was of such a nature that she has not been able to perform it wholly, and as these are matters of great importance, she hopes that Society will not rashly enter into actions of which perhaps she would have reason sooner or later to repent. The Committee likewise is of the opinion, that Society cannot effect the object now in view in this manner, but believes that a Committee should be appointed from each Society, to agree on Such Rules hereafter to be observed, relating to the admission of new Members and others into the Hall; with such an agreement, it is believed that the greatest amount of friendship can be maintained between the two Societies.

Respectfully submitted by
J. W. SANTEE
JACOB ZELLER
D. ELLIOTT REYNOLDS
Committee of
D. L. S.[17]

Next to the halls themselves, the pride of the societies was centered about the library which each group had established. These literary society libraries were begun in York as early as July 2, 1835, less than a month after the birth of the two organizations. The Diagnothian records show that "on motion of Mr. Steiner a committee of six was constituted to call upon the citizens of York forthwith to solicit donations of books to the library of the society." [18]

The minutes of the society at York further record, under date of September 1, 1835, "nine volumes have been added to the library, presented by the following persons, Messrs. Duncan and Dr. Rauch, making the number of books in the library at present, 131 volumes." A week later it was "resolved, That the students constituting this association during their vacational excursions solicit donations of books for our library from all those who are well disposed towards such

[17] *Ibid.*

[18] First Minutes of the Diagnothian Literary Society, under date of July 2, 1835. In Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

societies, and that each member pledge himself to procure at least twenty-five volumes." The Goethean society was similarly engaged from the very beginning of its history in building up a library of its own.

With such a nucleus, after the college was moved to Mercersburg the zeal and liberality of the members increased the size of the libraries to four thousand volumes in 1842 (before the society halls were even erected); and by 1852 the number had grown to six thousand. These books were gathered by the boys themselves, and many others were paid for by the members of the two societies, as the following records show:

(1)

We the undersigned members of the Diagnothian Literary Society promise to contribute the sums annexed to our names toward the purchase of Jefferson's Works and Irving's Washington.

C. W. Duncan	$1.00
J. H. E. Dubbs	$1.00
J. M. Wiestling	$1.00
W. A. Duncan	$1.00
R. A. Bucher	$1.00
J. N. Stauffer	$1.00
D. E. Klopp	$1.00

etc.[19]

(2)

The undersigned promise to pay, or cause to be paid to "The Committee of Ways and Means" of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College *on or before* the 5th of April next, the sums attached to our respective names, for the purpose of *increasing The Diagnothian Library.*

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[19] Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

Dec. 27th 1841 ——

John Cessna	$ 5.00
Theodore Apple	$ 5.00
E. V. Gerhart	$ 5.00
C. D. Gloninger	$10.00
N. S. Strassburger	$ 5.00
H. R. Schnebly	$ 5.00[20]

Many of these books were donated by friends, alumni, and honorary members. Notices appearing in the *Weekly Messenger* from time to time acknowledged such gifts:

"The Librarian of the Goethean Literary Society acknowledges the receipt of twenty volumes from Robert Gilmore, Esq., of Baltimore, Md.

"J. H. REIGART, *Librarian.*"[21]

"The Librarian of the Goethean Literary Society acknowledges the receipt of one hundred volumes from the Rev. C. Webster of Philadelphia.

"L. H. STEINER, *Librarian.*"[22]

"The Librarian acknowledges the receipt of a number of fine works from the Rev. Herman Hooker of Philadelphia, and the privileges of a regular subscriber to the Protestant Review from the same.

"J. H. REIGART, *Librarian.*"[23]

The members of each society, by their own vote, had imposed upon themselves a system of fines for tardiness, misdemeanors, and other offenses, the proceeds of which were devoted entirely to library purposes. In addition to the use of their own libraries the students had access also to the library of the Theological Seminary, which contained, in addition to many valuable works in theology, a good miscellaneous collection.

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[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Reformed Church Messenger,* June 26, 1844.

[22] *Ibid.,* July 26, 1844.

[23] *Ibid.,* July 3, 1844.

Quite early in its history each society started a museum or cabinet. The following report of the museum committee of the Diagnothian Society, made to the meeting of the society on September 13, 1848, will be of interest. The chairman of the committee was L. K. Lyester, an undergraduate who later became attorney-general of the state of Maryland. He reported as early as the session of 1844 that "a committee was appointed whose object was to collect and take care of specimens for the purpose of forming a respectable cabinet. But until lately the cabinet was partly lost sight of in the magnitude and difficulty of other undertakings. The hall was then to be completed and furnished and to this end all the available means of the members were to be directed. But now that these objects are in some measure attained, the attention and energies of the whole society were directed toward raising a museum which might compete with, if not surpass that of our rivals. Our undertaking has thus far been crowned with complete success. The collection of geological specimens now in our cabinet room is, according to the testimony of Dr. Green, not only superior to that of the other society but is scarcely equalled by any in the country. The specimens, amounting to 1496, were obtained from Germany and purchased from Dr. Green at a cost of $170, the purchase of shelving and cases costing $85. . . . The students immediately paid and subscribed almost the whole sum for the purchase." [24]

Sometimes the alumni or honorary members sent interesting and rare specimens for the cabinet of their society. The following letters show something of the excitement occasioned among the college boys when they received specimens of gold nuggets at the opening of the Gold Rush in California. The great question seemed to be whether the nuggets should be kept intact or coined into specie:

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[24] Minutes of the Diagnothian Literary Society under date of September 13, 1848, in Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

(1)

Maguelomes River
Alta California
16th Feby, 1850

TO THE DIAGNOTHIAN SOCIETY

Gentlemen—Feeling an interest in the success of your Society, and wishing to do it a service by aiding your museum, I have ventured to hope that a few specimens of the gold found in this country & dug by my own hands may be both interesting & useful. I have therefore taken the liberty of forwarding them to you.

With this expression of my good wishes, Believe me
Gentlemen
Most respectfully yours
J. B. MCKINNIE

(2)

TO THE DIAGNOTHIAN SOCIETY
Marshall College
Mercersburgh
Penn.

We have remaining in our office to the above directions one Parcel of Gold dust 12 oz. from California which you will oblige by letting us know if you wish to have it coined at our mint or sent as it is. You will also let us know how we are to send. We have an Express to Harrisburg. By answering the above you will oblige.

Your Obt Servants
ADAMS & CO.
per H. Gorman

Office 80 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia
April 6th 1850

(3)

Philadelphia
May 16th 1850

MR. L. H. KEAFAUVER
Corr. Sec. of D. L. Society
and Fellow Members:

Your letter of the 13th was received yesterday morning, informing me of the duty enjoined upon me by Society. I forthwith proceeded to the office of Adams & Co. and procured the package described. I opened it in the presence of Messrs. Newcomer and Reynolds, and found the following contents: a communication (which I enclose in this letter) from the donor, a Specimen of "Petrified Pine Wood," two papers, one containing "Black sand," the other "Gold-Dust," a large specimen of Gold and Quartz and ten specimens of pure gold of variable sizes, these together with the box and accompanying *etceteras* make up the entire package.

The gold is valued at $192 but would fall far short of that in coin: it would likely not yield more than $125. Your instructions to me are to have eleven ounces coined and one ounce reserved as a specimen for the Museum. Before complying with your instructions, and at the request of the Diagnothians of this city, to all of whom the entire package was exhibited, I have thought it advisable to address a letter to the Society, with some particulars with regard to the donation and the sentiments of Dr. Mayberry, Messrs. Reynolds, Jacoby, Newcomer and myself.

Dr. Mayberry is strenuously opposed to having any part of the gold coined; he thinks it would be an insult to the Donor, and thinks that it would be an injury to Society if it were known that a donation intended for Society's Museum were appropriated for her pecuniary purposes. He mentioned that it was likely he would express his opinions to Society in a letter, so that I need not say more for him.

The other gentlemen above referred to are also opposed to having it coined, but not so decidedly as Dr. Mayberry. All of us agree that each specimen ought to be labelled properly and placed in a conspicuous place in the Museum.

You will be able to learn, I think, from the letter of the Donor that he does not intend the gold to be coined, but you may have a communication directly from him (I should judge you have not) upon the strength of which you have acted. No blame whatever is attached to the Society, by any one above alluded to, but it was thought that she acted upon the matter with no further knowledge than that given in the letter from "Adams & Co." The donation is of the rarest kind, very valuable and should receive a proper notice in the public papers. This may be done by noticing it in the "Journal" and sending a copy to as many papers as may seem proper, simply marking the piece to be noticed.

I deem it unnecessary to describe each individual specimen particularly. I have named them on the first page and you can infer their general character as well as I could describe them.

These remarks have been thrown out, in a desultory manner it is true, for Society's consideration. For one, I am glad that Society feels so much concerned about her pecuniary affairs, as to be willing to appropriate her available material to these purposes: but you very well know that a donation ought to be disposed of agreeable to the wishes of the donor. There is more value in the present donation than is at all desirable to have lying quietly in the Museum, and if Mr. McKinnie would say that it ought to be coined, or that he intended it to be coined, it ought to be done. The entire package shall be securely preserved until Society shall give further instructions. Should she persist in the course she has taken I shall then proceed to have it coined, as directed in your communication, to the best advantage.

Should Society conclude not to have the gold coined, we will procure vials, or something of the kind suitable for the "Gold-Dust," "black sand," etc. and *label* them properly: in a word any disposition she may see proper *now* to make of the donation, shall be promptly complied with in the manner directed.

Allow me to express to you, and through you to the Society, I so much *love,* my profound regards for the confidence she has reposed in me in this matter, and should she have any duties to perform that come within the range of my capabilities I shall take great pleasure in attending to them.

Very respectfully yours
Fellow Diagnothian
JOSEPH COBLENTZ[25]

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[25] All three letters are in the Diagnothian MSS., Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Penna.

The reports of the curators of the society museums are still preserved, and offer a good idea of the variety of exhibits contained in the cabinets. The report of Joseph H. Apple, curator of the Diagnothian collection in 1852, notes the acquisition of "a specimen of moss from Mt. Olympus . . . a specimen of copper from Raven Rock, South Mountain . . . a sea bean from California . . . a seed of the Honey Locust . . . a specimen purporting to be petrified sage . . . a specimen of marble from the Temple of Diana, do. from the Washington Monument corner stone . . . impression of fern on slate . . . rock milk, iron ore, green serpentine, soapstone, crystalized iron ore, mica . . . an insect. . ."[26]

Both societies established the custom of electing honorary members. There was a keen rivalry in selecting the most famous men of the time. It was agreed between the societies that when one society decided to honor a famous man the other had to keep its hands off. Formal notifications of elections were exchanged between the groups. With rare exceptions courteous replies or appreciations were received to a letter that ran something like this:

Diagnothian Hall Marshall College
July 24, 1841 Mercersburg,
Pa.

MR. W. ZOLLICKOFFER—

I have the honor to inform you that your name has been enrolled on the list of Honorary members of the Diagnothian L. Society—at her last meeting. A high regard for your moral and intellectual worth has called forth this expression of esteem. The Society is designed to promote the mental and moral improvement of its members and to accomplish this, suitable exercises are performed. And in addition to this it is her object to raise a Library of the Best collection of Books being fully impressed with a sense of the benefit to be derived from such an aid in the prosecution

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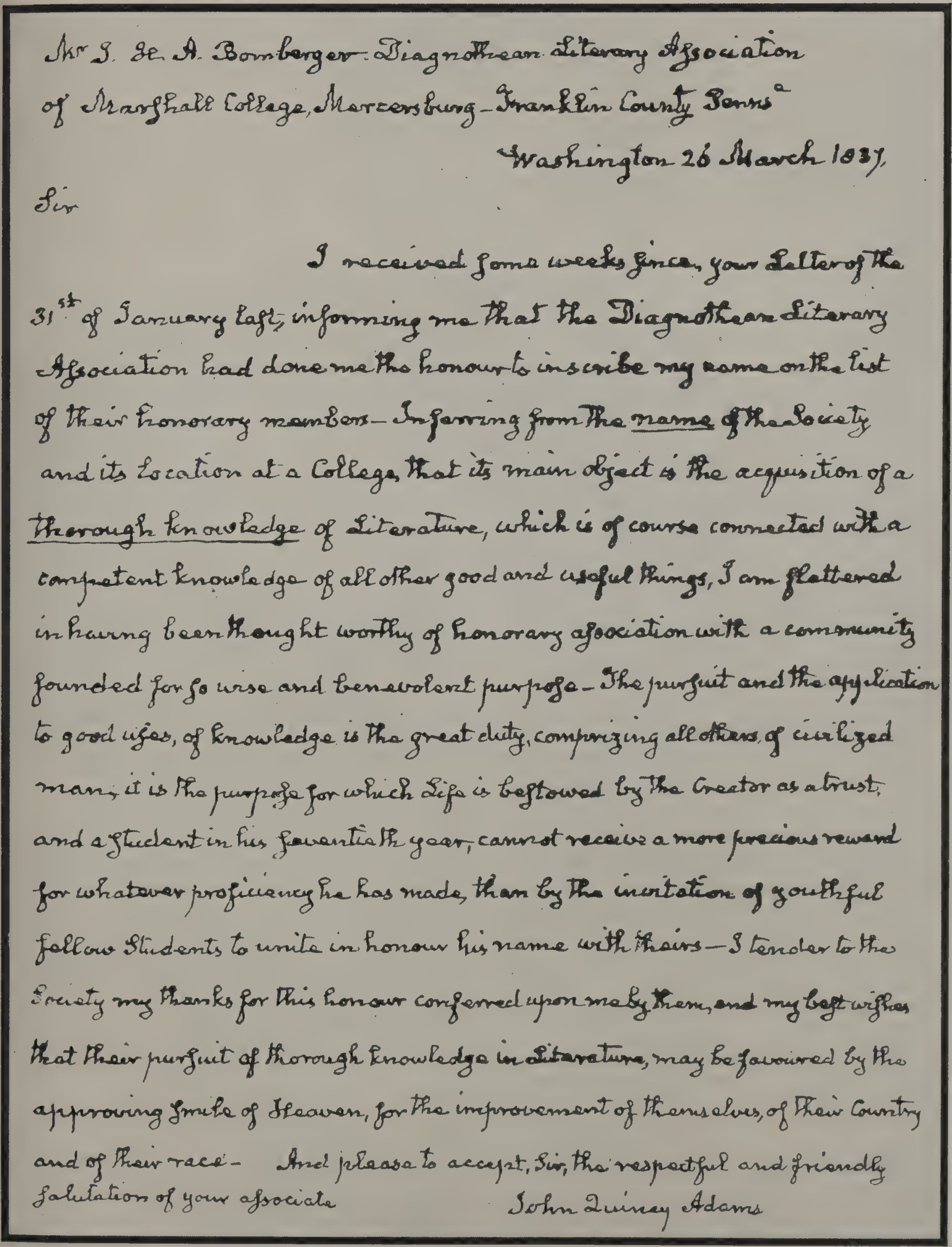
[26] MS. report dated September 8, 1852 in Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.



Mr J. H. A. Bomberger. Diagnothean Literary Aſsociation
of Marſhall College, Mercersburg - Franklin County Penn^{a}

Washington 26 March 1837.

Sir

I received ſome weeks ſince, your Letter of the 31st of January laſt, informing me that the Diagnothean Literary Aſsociation had done me the honour to inscribe my name on the list of their honorary members - Inferring from the *name* of the Society and its location at a College, that its main object is the acquiſition of a *thorough knowledge* of Literature, which is of course connected with a competent knowledge of all other good and uſeful things, I am flattered in having been thought worthy of honorary aſsociation with a community founded for ſo wise and benevolent purpoſe - The purſuit and the application to good uſes, of knowledge is the great duty, comprizing all others, of civilized man; it is the purpoſe for which Life is beſtowed by the Creator as a trust; and a ſtudent in his ſeventieth year, cannot receive a more precious reward for whatever proficiency he has made, than by the invitation of youthful fellow Students to unite in honour his name with theirs - I tender to the Society my thanks for this honour conferred upon me by them, and my beſt wiſhes that their purſuit of thorough knowledge in Literature, may be favoured by the approving ſmile of Heaven, for the improvement of themſelves, of their Country and of their race - And please to accept, Sir, the respectful and friendly ſalutation of your aſsociate

John Quincy Adams

Letter Written by John Quincy Adams
To the students of Marshall College, March 26, 1837

of Literary pursuits. Through the benevolence of her honorary members with that of her regular members this has in a general manner been obtained.

Hoping that you will give this a kind reception
I am Dear Sir—yours sincerely
CHARLES B. MACLAY
Corresp. Sec. of
D. L. S.[27]

Among the honorary members of these societies one finds the names of John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, Abraham Lincoln, James Buchanan, John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster, William Cullen Bryant, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Washington Irving, John J. Audubon, John Jacob Astor, General Winfield S. Scott, James Fenimore Cooper, William H. Seward, Edward Everett, John Greenleaf Whittier, and a host of other men of note who courteously acknowledged the honor conferred on them by these college boys.

(1)

MR. J. H. A. BOMBERGER, Diagnothian Literary Association of Marshall College, Mercersburg—Franklin County Penna.

Washington 26 March 1837.

Sir

I received some weeks since, your letter of the 31st of January last, informing me that the Diagnothian Literary Association had done me the honour to inscribe my name on the list of their honorary members. Inferring from the *name* of the Society and its location at a College, that its main object is the acquisition of a *thorough knowledge* of Literature, which is of course connected with a competent knowledge of all other good and useful things, I am flattered in having been thought worthy of honorary association with a community, founded for so wise and benevolent a purpose. The pursuit and the application to good uses, of knowledge, is the great duty, comprizing all others, of civilized man; it is the purpose for which Life is bestowed by the Creator as a trust, and a student in his seventieth year, cannot receive a more precious reward for whatever proficiency he has made, than by the invitation of youthful fellow students to write in honour his name with theirs. I tender to the Society my thanks for this honor conferred upon me by them, and my best wishes that their pursuit of thorough knowledge in Literature may be favoured by the approving smile of Heaven, for the improvement of themselves, of their country, and of their race. And please to accept, Sir, the respectful and friendly salutation of your associate

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[27] Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

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(2)

Army of Occupation
Camp near Monterey
July 17, 1847

Sir,

I had the honor by last mail to receive your esteemed favor of June 21st, by which I am advised of my election as an honorary member of the "Diagnothian Literary Society" of Marshall College.

I need hardly assure you of my acceptance and grateful appreciation of the honor thus unexpectedly conferred upon me, and I beg that you will convey to the members of the Society my sincere acknowledgments for the distinction which they have been thus pleased to bestow.

I remain, with high respect,
Your friend and obt. servt.
W. W. J. BLISS

K. S. Newcomer, Esq.
Corr. Sec. D. L. S. Marshall College
Mercersburg
Pa.

(3)

University New York Feb. 19th 1848

Dear Sir,

I received your favour informing me that the Diagnothian Society has done me the honor to elect me one of its members —a favour which I greatly appreciate.

Be pleased to convey to the Society my thanks for this expression of their regard.

May I further ask you to present to the Society in my behalf the copy of a Lecture which I send through the mail along with this to your address. Perhaps they will do me the favour of depositing it in their Library.

Very respectfully yours

JNO. W. DRAPER

To the Corresponding Secy. of
the Diagnothian Society

(4)

House of Rep.
Feby 8th 1845

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 5th inst. advising me of my election as an honorary member of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College; and I beg you to convey to your Society the expression of my thanks for this manifestation of its favorable regard, with the assurance of my best wishes for the prosperity of the Society and the institution to which it belongs.

Very respectfully
Yr Mo Obt. Servt
A. STEWART

To the Corr. Sec. D. L. S.

(5)

Frederick, August 24th, 1839

Sir:

Your favour of the 19th June came duly to hand, and I owe you and the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall

College an apology for the long delay in answering it. My engagements are manifold and complex, and if I lay aside a communication without giving it prompt and immediate attention, I am apt to neglect it altogether.

I feel and duly appreciate the Honor your Society has conferred upon me, by enrolling my name on her list of Honorary Members, and you will please present to her my cheerful acceptance.

The design of your Society (the mental and moral improvement of its members) I sincerely trust, may be accomplished to its fullest extent, and it will afford me much pleasure, whenever an opportunity offers, to give this laudable design my cordial aid. You will accept the enclosed 5$ as an earnest of my good wishes.

I remain Very Respcty
Your Humble Servt.
D. SCHLEY

To the Cor. Sec. D. L. S.

(6)

Washington Feb 8—1840

Dr Sir;

I owe you an apology for not having given earlier attention to your letter; and my excuse is partly founded on my incapacity to help you in a matter, so purely dependent upon taste, as that about which you have done me the honor to consult me.

Badges of distinction have been adopted by almost all Societies kindred to yours; but these are nearly as various as the names of the Societies, and their mottos have been borrowed from almost every tongue.—A rose formed, round a centre of silver or gold, bearing a motto, and worn upon the breast of the coat, was as neat a badge of distinction as I recollect to have seen.

You can have no difficulty, I am sure, in finding an appropriate motto for the *Diagnothian Society*. Its name imports its object; and the classics of every language, abound in maxims appropriate for its motto. Thorough knowledge, the translation of your Social Name, is a theme which has so often called forth the praise of the wise & good, both of ancient & modern times, that it cannot be difficult to find on the pages upon which their wisdom is spread, some sentence which the world should receive as a maxim & which you may borrow for a motto.

Receive yourself and present to your Society my best wishes for your and its prosperity and usefulness.

Yours respectfully
JAMES COOPER

Mr. Wm. P. Schell

(7)

Lydenham, near Philadelphia
April 22nd, 1842

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 15th instant got to my hands yesterday, and I beg you to be assured of the sincerity of my regrets when I say that I am constrained to decline the invitation of the Diagnothian Society to deliver the oration at the coming commencement of Marshall College on the 28th of next September. I am truly flattered at the terms of it, and you do me no more than justice in supposing that I take an interest in the progress of letters in our country; but I do not often leave home, and it so happens that on occasions when I do, calls of a family and business nature lead to my absence at periods one of which is apt to include the day of your commencement. Hence, I dare not engage myself to go abroad in another direction at that time, and I beg that you will be pleased to accept this as my unfeigned apology.

If I feel an interest in the progress of letters generally in our country, I am quite sure that one of the best guarantees of it is to see the youth of our colleges diligent; and if I might presume to close my letter with a sentiment, as public men are wont to do when invited to festivals which they are unable to be present at, it would be, to exhort my young friends of the Diagnothian Society to be diligent and studious, constantly and ambitiously, during their collegiate course; saying to them, with the great Athenian orator, that this is the first, this the second, and this the third, requisite for their fuure convenience.

With renewed regrets that I cannot be with you on the occasion in question, please to accept my sincere wishes for your present happiness and distinction while in college, and for your success and fame in after life; and believe me with sentiments of esteem.

Your friend,
Richard Rush

To
Mr. Theodore Apple, Mr. James E. Moore and Mr. C. Beebe } Committee of Correspondence of the Diagnothian Society—Marshall College

(8)

New York Aug 28th 1839

Dear Sir,

A short absence from town deprived me of the pleasure of receiving and replying in due season to your communication of the 14th.

I receive with lively gratification the honor done me by the Diagnothian Literary Society of Marshall College in electing me an Honorary Member of their body.—It is one of the pleasantest convictions that can be brought home to my mind and feelings, that the *Young America,* her educated young men, thinks of me with kindly and respectful regard. I am well aware how little title I have to it, except on the score of a deep & earnest & hopeful sympathy & trust in them as the only hope & salvation of the best interests of our mother-land.

I wish I were one of those men of letters (few in every age) who are in a condition to give *practical* test to the extent of their good wishes, of interest in one of the important objects of your association. I shall however have pleasure in begging your acceptance after contributing to the shelves of your library—which I will endeavor to put in the way of getting to you through some bookseller in Philadelphia.

Be so good as to assure your Society of the cordial pleasure & thankfulness with which I accept the honor I have received; —and believe me with high consideration very truly

Your Obt Servt

C. S. HENRY[28]

Wm. Maybury
Sec.

The literary contests between the societies which had begun in York continued at Mercersburg with ever-increasing hostility. The following may be facetious, but it nevertheless presents an excellent picture of what happened when these contests were in full swing:

" Of the two rival Societies of Marshall College, in the earliest times at Mercersburg, no exhibition held during the year excited greater interest or concern than the literary Contest, at which time a selected few of the ablest orators, writers, and debaters of each society, after having undergone a thorough training for this purpose, in their respective halls, were now set forth and pitted against each other, to contend in public on the stage for supremacy. Behind them were seated three venerable judges, the wisest and most erudite men in the whole community; whose business it was, after having well observed their performances, to consult together and then utter their combined decision as to which Society belonged the victory. This decision, however, seldom proved final; not being acceptable to all concerned. The defeated party and their friends, doubting the infallibility of these judges, generally had recourse afterwards to what they considered a superior test, the ordeal of battle—not that, indeed, of the sword or pistol, but of clubs or bludgeons. After leaving the hall of controversy, having first retired to their respective rooms, and hastily donned their hunting shirts and seized their hostile weapons, they presented themselves again in the campus in full array for battle. Their foes, too, having scented their design, were not slow in being on hand to meet them, equally well equipped; and then commenced the final contest.

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[28] All of the above autograph letters are preserved in the Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

" A curious fact it was, too, showing how prone to err are even the wisest men, that it was generally the very society which the judges in their wisdom had, a little before, declared defeated, that, in the end, were shown to be the proper claimants of the victory, having substantiated their right to this by that most conclusive of all adjudications, the superior handling of the cudgels." [29]

The faculty had to intervene finally and discontinue the literary contests, as the following letter from the Secretary to the Faculty shows:

Feby. 27th 1838.

To the
President of the
Diagnothian Society.

Sir. The faculty of the college desire to bring before your society the consideration whether it would not be advisable to abandon the public exercises at the end of the Winter Session considered as contests for superiority. They think they have already seen evidence of a little angry feeling arising from these contests & fear that some future time this feeling might grow to bitterness. The Faculty merely make the proposition for the consideration of your society. They have made a similar communication to the Goethian Society.

Respectfully your obt. servt.
S. W. BUDD JR.
Secty to the Faculty [30]

Shortly after the elimination of the literary contests, the anniversaries, or exhibitions as they were sometimes called, came into existence. The greatest occasions of the year for the literary societies and the community at large were these exhibitions. The Diagnothian anniversary was celebrated on

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[29] Nevin, William M. "Sobersides Papers," in *College Days,* April, 1873.
[30] Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

July 4; the Goetheans chose the birthday of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, after whom the society was named three years after the death of the great German poet and philosopher. As a matter of fact the Goethean Literary Society was the first among forty now in existence throughout the world to take the name of Goethe. This was doubtless done at the suggestion of Dr. Rauch, who delivered an address on Goethe at Marshall College in 1839. Public notices for each anniversary, made a month before the event, ran as follows:

(1)

EXHIBITION

THE DIAGNOTHIAN LITERARY SOCIETY of Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa., will hold an Exhibition in the Presbyterian Church on the evening of the

FOURTH OF JULY NEXT.

The exercises will consist principally of

ORIGINAL ORATIONS

The friends of the Society and the public generally are respectfully invited to attend. An excellent Band of Music will be present.

T. C. W. HOFFEDITZ, }
JAMES E. MOORE, } *Com. of arrange.*[31]
WM. MAYBURRY, }

Diagnothean Hall, June 11, 1840.

(2)

LITERARY NOTICE!

The Goethean Society of Marshall College will celebrate the anniversary of *Goethe's* birth, in the Hall of the Seminary on the 28th of August at 10 o'clock A.M. when an address will be delivered by the Rev. Wm. A. Good, A.M., on "*Goethe and his times.*"

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[31] *Reformed Church Messenger,* June 17, 1840.

The Honorary and Graduate members are respectfully invited to be present.

GEO. L. STALEY,
Secretary[32]

Mercersburg, Pa.

From the following newspaper articles of a hundred years ago one is able to create a most vivid picture of these red-letter days in the life of the town and college.

(1)

The exercises took place in the Presbyterian Church, which was handsomely decorated. There was a taste displayed in the decoration, which declared that the hands of ladies were employed; that 'twas them who wove the wreaths, and interspersed them with bright flowers as modest and beauteous as themselves, which gracefully curled around the pillars, and hung in festoons upon the sides of the galleries;—that it was the merry, laughing, love-proving belle of sixteen summers, who fashioned the graceful arches which stood in *bas relief* behind the stage, and arranged the vases of the beautiful productions of Flora, which surrounded its sides.

. . . The audience was enlivened in the interim of the orations by music from the St. Thomas Band. . . .[33]

(2)

DIAGNOTHEAN LITERARY SOCIETY

This flourishing society in connection with Marshall College at Mercersburg, held its anniversary for the present year, on the evening of the 4th inst. . . .

The occasion was one of great interest and excitement. The exercises were held in the Presbyterian Church which had been beautifully decorated by the ladies of the place. In the rear of the stage an arch was erected which displayed considerable taste and skill.

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[32] *Ibid.*, August 19, 1840.

[33] Quoted *ibid.*, July 26, 1843, from the Chambersburg *Times's* account of the Anniversary of the Diagnothian Literary Society.

At 8 o'clock, the professors and members of the two Literary Societies of the College, escorted by the Mercersburg Artillerists, proceeded to the church. The exercises were opened with prayer by the Rev. DR. NEVIN. A prologue was then pronounced, which had been written for the occasion by Prof. W. M. Nevin, and evidenced considerable ingenuity and tact. Orations were delivered by Messrs. THEODORE APPLE, CHARLES B. MACLAY, WILLIAM P. SCHELL, HENRY A. MISH, JOHN CESSNA, and HENRY HARBAUGH. The young men all acquitted themselves well, and showed themselves to be masters of the subjects they discussed. We were particularly pleased with the performances of Messrs. Schell and Mish. The exercises were enlivened by music from a band, which had been formed for the occasion under the control of Mr. Cassina. So much were we pleased with all that was witnessed, that we consider ourselves amply repaid for our trip to Mercersburg.

The Committee of arrangements deserve special notice for the manner in which they discharged the duties assigned them.

The audience present was unusually large. The church though a capacious building, was insufficient for the accomodation of all, so that many were obliged to return or remain outside.

M.[34]

(3)

Mr. Editor:

I had the privilege, for the first time, to spend *New Year's-day* in the village of Mercersburg, and I cannot forbear expressing the pleasure which I experienced during my brief visit in that growing and interesting place. I need not tell you or your readers, that the Theological Seminary of the German Reformed Church, and Marshall College, as well as a flourishing Female Seminary, conducted by Mrs. Young and Mrs. Rauch, are located here; nor need I say, that these Institutions are in a highly flourishing condition.

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[34] *Ibid.*, July 13, 1842.

I merely wish at present to say, that I had the privilege on New Year's-day evening, of being present at the Anniversary of one of the Literary Societies of Marshall College, called in honor of Goethe, the " Goethean Literary Society." Being five minutes too late, I had to be content with a corner behind the platform of the speakers, at least for some time. The large building was crowded to excess.

The services were opened with prayer by Dr. Nevin—the Society's Band performed a piece of Music, after which a Prologue, (written by a graduate member of the Society) was pronounced by Master Charles J. Cox, of New Jersey. The speaker seemed from his size, dress and voice, to be in the first half of his *teens*, but his manner of delivering his verse was, to say the least, very creditable, and would have been so, even had he been a *Senior*. His enunciation was clear and distinct, and his delivery as a whole was not undeserving of the approbation which the audience bestowed upon the performance.

The next was an *Oration* by Mr. J. S. King, of Penn. His subject was:—" *True Greatness* "—after which another Oration by Mr. A. M. Spangler, of York, Pa., succeeded—" *The Crisis of American Youth*." Both these performances abounded in correct sentiment, were delivered in a spirited manner, and were well received by the audience.

" *Is the Monarchical or Republican the more stable form of Government?* " was the subject of an interesting debate between Messrs. D. Wilson and G. W. Aughinbaugh. The argument, that greater stability belongs to a Monarchy, was well studied by Mr. Wilson, and I suppose our prejudices alone would prevent us from saying, that there is a degree of instability around us, which by no means augurs very favorably for our continuance as a Republic an hundred years hence. And yet after listening to the smooth and pleasant rejoinder of Mr. Aughinbaugh, one might have supposed, that this Republic of ours was built upon a Rock, which all the ocean-waves and howling storms of the Universe could not touch. But apart from the merits of the question itself, it is but due to both of the gentlemen to say, that they presented their subjects well—*very well.* Mr. Rice, of Maryland, then laid in a strong "*Plea for the Immigrant,*" in an oration which for sentiment and diction was alike creditable to his judgment and heart.

The closing Oration by Mr. Heckerman of Chambersburg, Pa., ("*Excelsior*") was well received by the audience, and the speaker has no need of being ashamed of his performance.

Taken altogether, I thought the whole exhibition was creditable to the young gentlemen themselves as well as their Professors. It is very perceptible, that they are trained to the habit of *close thinking,* and this I consider the most important thing to be learnt by a student at College.

Permit me, Mr. Editor, to congratulate your State, and the Community in general, upon having an Institution in its midst, that has already won itself a name so honorable amidst its older sisters. Let it be cherished as it deserves, and MARSHALL COLLEGE will in a short time have a name and place among the most venerated and best of the Colleges in the land.

A VISITOR [35]

(4)

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIAGNOTHIAN LITERARY SOCIETY

The above Society celebrated its anniversary at Mercersburg on Friday the 2nd instant. We had hoped to receive some notice of it for our columns, but have been thus far disappointed. The following statement, we make up from the last number of the "Weekly Journal."

"The Diagnothian Hall was dedicated in the morning. An excellent Address, full of sound truths, but enlivened by a slight vein of humor, was delivered by the REV. E. V. GERHART, of Gettysburg, Pa. His theme was 'The proper vocation of the Scholar.' A fact was mentioned by the orator, which may convey some idea of the importance of the Literary Societies connected with the college: twelve years ago they consisted of but twelve members each, with libraries of less than a hundred volumes, half of which we know to be Dictionaries and Grammars. At present they have upwards of sixty members each, and libraries amounting, in the aggregate, to about 5000 volumes of well selected works in every department of literature.—Notwithstanding the expense at which these libraries have been procured, they have erected their splendid halls, costing from four and five thousand dollars each. In contemplation of these facts they cannot be charged with vanity in thinking they have done great things 'for undergraduates.'

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[35] *Ibid.,* January 10, 1844.

"In the evening the same Society celebrated its anniversary by an exhibition. A large audience, among whom were a number of persons from a distance, were present. Of them was the REV. DR. ELLIOTT of Allegheny Seminary."

The following is the order of the exercises observed at the anniversary: Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Nevin; Prologue written by the Rev. J. C. Brettell, spoken by C. D. Fitzhugh; Anniversary Address, "Diagignosko" by D. Gans; Oration on "Immortality" by S. Philips; Oration on "Civilization not inimical to Poetry" by A. Christman; Oration on "Imagination, its Charms" by T. A. Boyd; Oration on "The World at Play" by J. H. Derr; Oration on "The Dream of Fame" by E. L. Acker; Epilogue, written by Rev. H. Harbaugh, spoken by J. B. Linn; Benediction by the Rev. Dr. Elliot.

The day is represented as a great one for Mercersburg, and we trust it will be no less memorable in the history of the Institutions located there.[36]

(5)

TO THE STUDENTS OF MARSHALL COLLEGE, AND ESPECIALLY TO THE MEMBERS OF THE "DIAGNOTHEON LITERARY SOCIETY."

Gentlemen:—In behalf of the members of the "Union Band," I avail myself of the pleasure of tendering to you my most sincere thanks for the very kind and generous treatment we received. Though sensibly feeling our unworthiness to please *all,* we deemed it a duty incumbent on us to do the best we could, and thus to accommodate you *at all hazards*. Indeed, such was the disposition of us all in endeavouring to meet your very reasonable wishes, and we hope you have found those wishes gratified.

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[36] *Ibid.,* July 14, 1847.

If at any other time our music should be desired, we shall be ready, with the certainty of redoubling a pleasure that we have seldom ever felt but when obliging you. Much could I say in return for your flattering encomiums, and warmest wishes for our success in music; but we shall briefly say in return, that we hope your success in literary pursuits will equal your happiness while engaged in them, and that in after life we may admire in you the friendship of the student and accomplishments of the scholar.

A mistake having occurred when about taking our leave of you, and as some of you requested us to play a few airs in the coach ere starting, I must say it was no neglect in me or any of us, but a misunderstanding in the driver, and as it was your last wish, I was exceedingly mortified and vexed that I could not, therefore, fulfil a promise made to several gentlemen of the " Diagnotheon Literary Society."

N. SNIDER,
Captain of the " Union Band." [37]

Chambersburg, September 28, 1838.

(6)

GOETHEAN SOCIETY OF MARSHALL COLLEGE

The following notice of an Exhibition of the above Society, is taken from the " Chambersburg Times," of the 17th instant:

The youth of *our* State may now gather the greatest advantages in Education. We have Colleges, Seminaries, Academies, and Common Schools, in which all branches of learning are thoroughly taught. Our own county may now boast of one flourishing Institution. Marshall College, situated at Mercersburg, has been chartered little more than five years, and numbers, at present, one hundred and fifty students.—With such prosperity, what a high destiny may not her sanguine friends anticipate!—There are two Literary Societies connected with this Institution, viz: the GOETHEAN and DIAGNOTHIAN. The two have distinct and well selected libraries, numbering together about four thousand volumes. I had the pleasure of attending an exhibition of the former of these Societies on last New Year's Eve. The exercises consisted of four original orations, one selection, a debate, and an original poem. Each of the young gentlemen performed their respective parts with credit to their society and themselves. The audience—which consisted of the learned and gay of the village—appeared deeply interested, but seemed to listen with particular attention to the poem of "The Lament of the Last Indian." For beautiful language and imagery, I have scarcely ever heard its superior from so young a person. There was one fault however (if fault it can be called) that prevailed. It is a fault that most generally attends similar exhibitions. I refer to the necessity under which all the speakers labored of being PROMPTED. Out of the whole eight performances, I do not remember of one in which the speaker's memory did not "fail to bring forth." Pieces intended for public exhibition, if ever so good, appear to disadvantage if imperfectly committed.—An audience never makes allowance for an imperfect knowledge of one's own written production.

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[37] *Ibid.*, October 3, 1838.

The Church was ornamented by an arch of Evergreen, thrown over the back part of the stage, under which was suspended the portrait of Washington; and at either side, that of Goethe, and the deceased President of the College, Dr. Rauch.[38]

On these anniversary occasions one distinguished alumnus usually read a prologue and a second closed the event with an epilogue. Sometimes the society conferred the honor of writing the verse for these occasions on one of the professors or on one of the more eminent honorary members of the organization. The following examples are worth recalling.

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[38] *Ibid.*, January 26, 1842.

(1)

PROLOGUE

Fair ladies, and ye gentle Sirs, I rise
That you may hail me as a star, but not
One of the greatest magnitude. I go before
Merely to herald, and to usher in
By my cold light a host of rising suns
Or suns about to rise, whose spreading beams
May blaze around you, warm and wake the earth
To gladness, life and beauty, climb the hills,
Flooding their highest icy peaks with gold,
And thence, stream to the very farthest pole
Of the blue arch up yonder. You should know
These be our young Apollos, who were fed
On wholesome pasture in the milky fields
Of an old lady, hight their Alma Mater,
And fresh in lusty vigor now come down
To shine awhile upon you here below
By way of trial. Not as August suns
With parching heats, nor bleak November suns
Nor tender suns of spring, but in full tide
Of conscious strength as bright mid-summer suns,
Which look on nature, when she gives no signs
Of infant weakness, or declining age.
They bring their glory to you. On this day
This festal day of holy Liberty
The eagle of their country will soar up,
And gaze upon them with admiring eye
And proudly own the gallant company.
All things that have their first foundation laid
In this propitious hour, have certain pledge
Of a long, happy future, if I read
The heavens aright, and therefore shall our walls
Reared in this blessed aspect, (I fortell),
Shelter for many ages yet unborn,
Lack sons of learning, wit, and eloquence,
As here tonight will stand before you now.—
My task is done;—the coming splendor dawns;—
My lamp going dim;—I hang it in a cloud
And vanish from your sight.

Written by Thomas C. Porter in 1848[39]

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[39] Diagnothian MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

(2)

Lewisburg Union Co., Pa. June 15, 1844

Fellow Members of the
Diag. Lit. Society:

The following is the prologue, which according to your appointment, has been written for the Anniversary on the coming fourth. You are at liberty to make use of it as you see best. That is either to use it, or not to use it. In either case I shall be satisfied. It is no affectation when I say that I feel diffident on the subject, and I would rather submit it to the judgment of Society than to my own.

1.

Most wise,[40] most brave,[41] most studious, learned sirs,[42]
—And ladies.
For me to look upon, and stand before you, stirs
My inmost soul with noble fire, and makes me wish
For power within me to hurl a blazing brand
Into each callous heart, (if such be here)—and dish
Its rocky shell; and kindle there, with magic hand,
Upon the rayless, soulless, dark chaotic,
A fire
Patriotic.

2.

'Tis a brave day on which we've met—not only brave
But glorious;
The sixty-eighth that rides across the tyrant's grave
Victorious.
I'm young in years, as you perceive, and did not fight
On Bunker, nor did see the flag at Yorktown wave;
But I've read, and heard my father say 'twas a sight
Most glorious—how they did fight, and boldly brave
The British host, and chain, amidst the war's commotion,
The lion
Of the Ocean.

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[40] The faculty.

[41] The soldiers.

[42] The students. [Harbaugh's notes.]

3.

Tho I myself did never shoulder arms
In Battle;
Nor raise my voice in dreadful war alarms
And rattle;
Yet when the Fourth comes round, and guns are fired,
And speeches come from bigger mouths and hearts;—
My little heart grows also big—and is inspired
Quite full; and many a word heroic darts
Unconscious out—and "*hail Columbia*" bellows
(as loud) from me
As from my fellows.

4.

And when the evening comes, and each to his desire
The day has spent.
When drums and powder can no more inspire
The Eloquent.
Oh then I love to pin, on this lapel
My little badge, and as it flutters light
Upon the air, to march, to the glad swell
Of martial notes;—not to the deadly fight,
But in the midst where peace, with gentle smiles
The evening
Cheer, beguiles.

5.

To me it seems that many faults have come
Into the nation,
Regarding this great fourth—and some
Its celebration.
Time was when *all* the freemen in the land,
Like brothers joined upon our country's day;
But now 'tis Whig and Loco, rings from every stand,
And some for *Polk* do bawl, and some for *Clay*,
All praise, with swelling words, what *these* have done—
And where
Is Washington!

6.

Shame on us all, thus to forget, in *party* strife,
Our Fathers' graves;
And him, who from Mt. Vernon's urn, as oft in life,
His Country saves.
Besides the spirit of this glorious fourth;—
A desecration this no less than when
The proud Antiochus came madly forth
Upon the Jews, and (shame that we are men)
Upon God's altar laid a *swine* oblation,
Before
The Nation!

7.

Shame to us all—I've seen on this proud day
Oft speaking
To listening crowds, some demagogue, whose object all
Was office-seeking.
With frothing mouth, and open wide, proclaiming
The principles *on which,* the reasons *why*
His party should succeed—that *he* was aiming
To revive our liberties, just about to die.
I've wished that Washington would rise to awe—
Or slap—
His jaw!!

8.

But I forgot, I did not rise to talk
On little tricks;
Or with the two-edged sword of truth to walk
Through politics.
I did not come to teach or to amuse,
Not with a learned sling in combat to subdue
Some wise Goliath; but only just to introduce
My modest fellows, here around, to you.
I only go before with horn and drumming
To tell
Who's coming.

9.

A prologue, yes a prologue I am at,
That is to say,
A porch before a house—the morning *peep* that
Brings the day.
Or wiser still—a *flash* before the storm
To tell of thunder—or else some nameless lore
That *bodes* the coming; as when in Etna form
The Earthquake voices, a something goes before.
Or like a horn when stomach's growing thinner
Proclaims
The dinner.

10.

A prologue—'tis a preface to the book;
A table
Of contents—the spring that makes the brook.
The cable
Of the ship which, if let loose 'tis under sail.
(Dear me what wise analogies) I hope
You understand me now—or must I fail,
With all my publico-logico, to ope
My subject well—but I may presume
You see it,
And resume
My seat—.

The effect of the piece will of course, depend greatly upon the manner in which it is spoken. It should be spoken in an easy, playful, incidental manner. An attempt at Patrick Henry oratory, in my opinion, would spoil its effect. The speaker should represent in himself the *simplicity* of boyhood, at least in many places—such as Stanza 2, 3, 4, and latter part of 7th and 8th. But I would not dictate, as every speaker can best determine what is natural for him.

Please do not let it be known beyond the Society who wrote it. Let me know whether it answers your purpose. I would like to mingle with you, as I have before, on your coming day of Anniversary. But can *only in spirit*. Please, gentlemen, and fellow members, accept of my wishes for your success as a Society, and your welfare personally

Yours H. HARBAUGH[43]

The Students of Old Marshall also had journalistic proclivities. One of the first attempts at a College paper was rather scurrilous. It appeared in the nature of a "rhymed satire"—usually on Commencement occasions. It was dignified with a title taken from Sterne—"Slubberdegullion" it was called. The series of doggerel verse came to be known as "Slubs."

One of the unique literary efforts of early student days was a manuscript periodical issued by several students who gave their production the name of "Rup-Jon-Jim," published during the winter session 1840–41 at Marshall College, and embellished with thirty-four illustrations. The publication probably received its title from the nicknames of the three young editors.

It appears that there was an earlier publication known as the "Ranala," and the three students known as Rup-Jon-Jim brought out a rival paper. The contents furnishes an excellent picture of student opinion and gives incidents in the lives of the editors.

The illustrations are excellent. They furnish through pen and ink sketches a fair idea of buildings and customs of the early forties. The best picture of the old preparatory school, and its conflagration, and the best idea of a public meeting of a Literary Society in the old Presbyterian edifice in Mercersburg with its quaint and simple architecture, the reader can get from these illustrations.

We quote a few paragraphs from "Rup-Jon-Jim": "Winter has set in, in good earnest, and we shall judge it a pretty severe one, by the state of its temperature. Our quill seems to feel the effect yet, however we hope it will not in the least hinder us in the publication of the Rup-Jon-Jim. It begins to flow less freely while our fingers too seem to fall in with the general complaint against cold. The warm stove begins to feel very comfortable. We were shoving closer to

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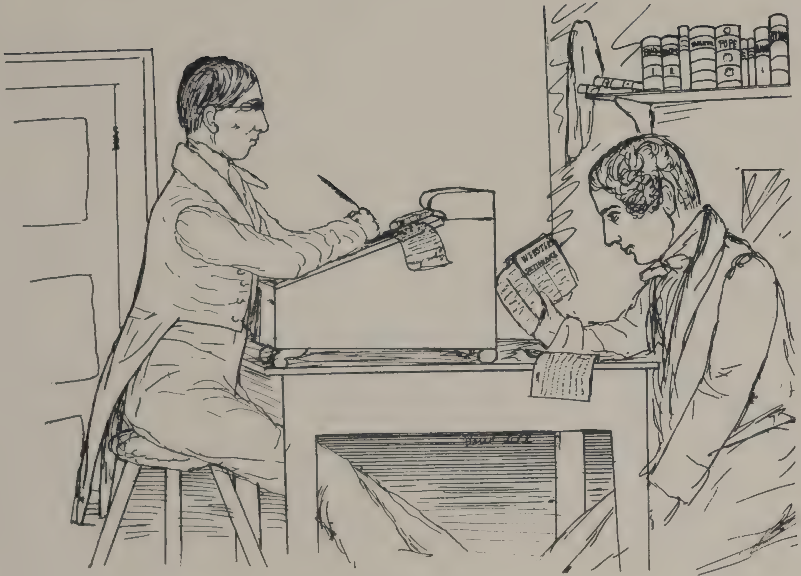
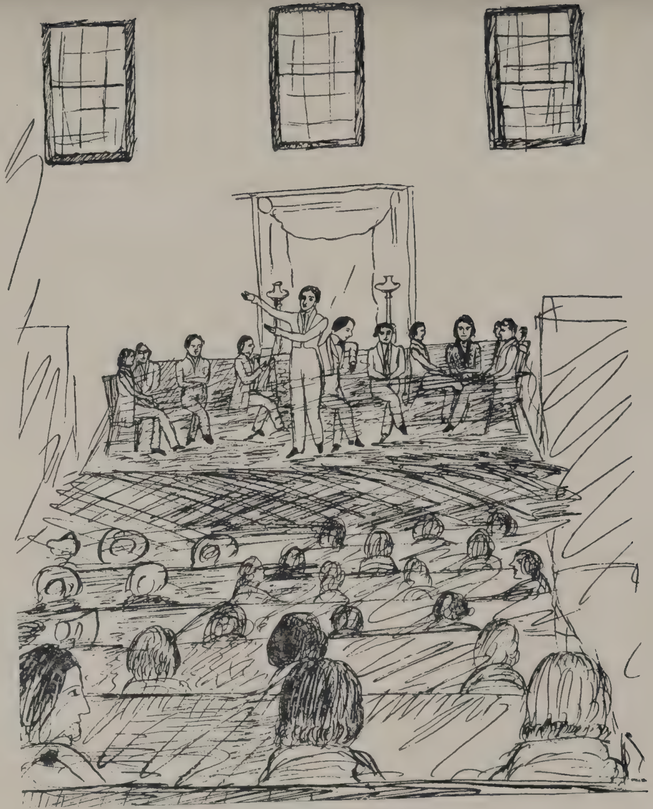
[43] *Ibid.*


POPE
WEBSTER DICTIONARY

A Class-Room Scene
Sketched by a student in the "Rup-Jon-Jim" in 1840



An Inter-Society Debate
Sketched by a student in the "Rup-Jon-Jim" in 1840

Sketches of Student Life
From "Rup-Jon-Jim"

it as we were writing the Rup-Jon-Jim until the smell of burnt cloth convinced us we were quite near enough.

"There is general confusion in the adjoining room. As well as we can understand one of the students came up puffing and blowing as if he were on fire; he seemed to be in an agony which we could not comprehend until he told us he was half frozen."

* * *

"We understand that some person intends to erect a printing establishment in our town and publish a paper called the Spy. We do not fear that they will in the least injure the Rup-Jon-Jim but on the contrary will add something to the interest of general intelligence. We understand too that they expect to receive contributions or essays from our students. We learn that some of them are already in a state of ecstasy at this."

* * *

"We hear that about fifty mince pies have joined the teetotal Society."

* * *

"A small speckled cow left town about a week ago. It is believed that she is kept on the Fourth Story of the Seminary Building by several ill-intentioned students."

* * *

The best news item in the Rup-Jon-Jim is the vivid description given by a young Academy student of the burning of the Preparatory Building in January, 1841:

THE LAST GROAN OF THE OLD PREPARATORY

Faint and obscure fell the sound of fire upon my ear this morning. Scarcely knowing whether in a dream or not, but the words being repeated, I mounted upon my feet upon the floor. Being directed to see the smoke and light I gave a hasty look out of the window where I beheld volumes of smoke rising above the light. I hastily dressed myself, but with difficulty found any necessary articles. When being sufficiently equipped with a bucket in my hand I directed my way towards the conflagration with all possible speed and when turning the corner, what should I behold, but the old Preparatory on fire which the consuming element would soon despatch into oblivion. Soon the people were gathered together, and commenced the accustomed bawling out, fire! fire! water! water! buckets! buckets! But the flames acted effectually upon the building. The worthless engine could effect but little, being incapable to cast forth all the water it was fed with, half of which wasted in the street. But still the cry was water! water! water! Fall in the ranks, which were composed of all ranks of individuals, Professors, Students, male and female, white and black, all lent their aid to stop the raging element, which sent forth its insupportable heat, defying any to face it.

But the perseverance of the men checked the raging element, and limited its fury only to the preparatory and its adjacent wing (so to speak) which was soon leveled to the ground. Finding all danger over, the ranks dispersed, and they gathered around the fire warming themselves, and paying their last respects, to the ashes of the *Old Preparatory*.

But the building is not all that has been consumed, with it many books shared the same fate. The principle [*sic*] of which I shall mention, is the Roll Book, which is a pleasure to many of the students, particularly those who had a large number of marks for deficiencies. They have passed to oblivion, and are void of all recognition.[44]

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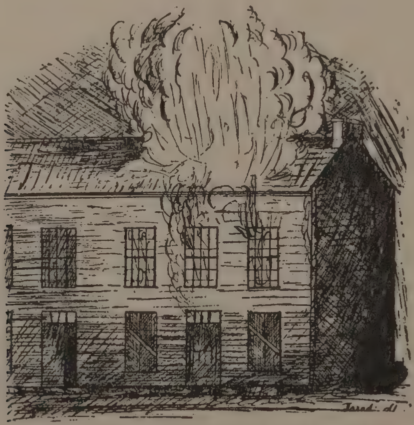
[44] From the original, preserved in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.



"THE LAST GROAN OF THE OLD PREPARATORY"
Sketched by a student

CHAPTER XIV

The Boys of Old Marshall

TWO surprises are in store for anyone who ventures to look into the college life of students of a hundred years ago. The first comes in the realization of how very different the surroundings and equipment of students, the courses of study and the mode of living, really were. A fact of greater interest, however, is found in the similarity of the inner life, the hopes, ambitions, pranks, and achievements of the boys of all times. It is an evidence of the reality of eternal youth.

One reads the diaries and the letters of college and academy students of generations ago; one digs into the faculty records which usually contain an account of the misdemeanors of the bad boys, for good boys are seldom if ever brought before the faculty and thus their permanent record in college history is unfortunately somewhat jeopardized—and the result is that one finds that while life was simpler and often more crude in earlier days, boys have been ever the same, eager and ambitious, alert and ever busy devising new ways of making mischief, raw material for the making of men.

The writer knew some of the old Marshall boys when they were well advanced in years, dignified, grave, holding responsible positions in church and state. There were not many of them at best. In the seventeen years of the college's separate history there were only 188 graduates and 205 non-graduates in the school, less than 400 students in all, nearly one-half of whom entered the gospel ministry. Among them were a vice-president of the United States, Thomas A. Hendricks, a student in the Marshall Law School; a United States senator, the Hon. John Scott; a governor of Pennsylvania, the Hon. John F. Hartranft; a half-dozen of the most influential members of the Constitutional Convention of Pennsylvania in 1873; members of Congress like the Hon. John Cessna and the Hon. J. W. Killinger; Dr. E. V. Gerhart, president of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster; Dr. Thomas G. Apple, president of Franklin and Marshall College; Dr. George W. Williard, president of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, and Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger, president of Ursinus College. One could lengthen the list by adding many names of men prominent in every sphere of human activity.

What were the circumstances under which these men lived when they attended Marshall College? How did they travel—how did they play—what was their social life?

Students travelling to Mercersburg before 1837 came in all sorts of vehicles. By that year, however, the progress of internal improvement brought about a change, so that one could travel on railroad cars and steamboats or canal boats. The *American Almanac* for 1837 says that the improvements made in transportation were so great that a distance of about 450 miles could be covered in less than 48 hours, and that the passage between New York and Philadelphia could be accomplished in eight hours. The canals in the United States comprised two thousand miles and the length of the railroads was already upwards of 1500 miles. That means that by 1838 students could come from distant points to Chambersburg or Greencastle by train, and travel from either of these two places to Mercersburg by stage. Most of the students had never been on a railroad train before they took their first trip to college. The new way of travel furnished them with not a very thrilling experience. Dr. Theodore Appel relates that on his trip to Mercersburg in 1839 he went by rail from Philadelphia to Harrisburg: "the seats were hard, the speed was slow, the cars ran on thin slats of iron, like a wagon tire, several times the train had to be drawn up inclined planes but most of the travellers got out and walked up, partly, perhaps, from fear that the immense traction ropes might break, and partly, perhaps, in order to lighten the burden. It afforded the passengers an opportunity to examine the engine and see how it worked. With suppressed feelings and quiet whispers we crossed the Susquehanna at Harrisburg. . . . After we left the Susquehanna we entered the great Cumberland Valley by rail."[1]

Students usually took the stage from either Chambersburg or Greencastle. At first the stage ran only three times a week and persons who arrived at Chambersburg by the evening cars on Tuesday and Thursday could leave the following morning at eight o'clock and be in Mercersburg by twelve. After 1841 there was a daily stage line between Greencastle and Mercersburg. This was considered quite an achievement, affording great convenience to those who wished to pass to and from Mercersburg. "It has always been considered a great inconvenience connected with the location of the institutions at Mercersburg, that the place has hitherto been so difficult of access on account of the infrequency of the stages running to and from it, and the friends of these institutions will therefore rejoice, that this inconvenience is now removed."[2]

There was great rivalry between the stage-drivers running from Mercersburg to Chambersburg and Greencastle. They were "rival charioteers" worthy of the pen of Charles Dickens. Dr. William Nevin describes these old-time charioteers: "Captain Guyer, a pursy man of middle age and stature, clad in a thick gray overcoat with a voluminous comforter about his neck and a voice husky from nightly exposure, a smaller pattern was he of Tony Weller but in spirit and activity more like his son Samivel. He was in the habit of driving over to Chambersburg and back again almost every day in a long machine somewhat like a flat-bottomed boat in shape, with seats across, mounted on four wheels and drawn by two, sometimes four, fast trotting horses. . . .

"When the students arrived in the cars at Chambersburg no object was more anxiously looked for and more joyously greeted than the figure of the Captain, who was always on the lookout with whip in hand, all ready to receive them. They were soon leaving the town and rattling along the turnpike road in a westerly direction for a few miles, then suddenly turning off to the southwest. Through lanes and byroads they passed under the trees across the country, until they caught the first glimpse of the cupola of the college and a broad view of the whole town in its snug homelike retreat among the mountains." [3]

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[1] Appel, *Recollections of College Life,* p. 21.

[2] *Reformed Church Messenger,* July 28, 1841.

The second charioteer was a character known and loved by all the old Marshall boys. He was a colored man by the name of Arnold Brooks, who served as a retainer in the old Mansion House standing at the southwest corner of the Diamond. A gray limestone building erected soon after the Revolution by the Scotch-Irish, it was the principal hotel in the village, and Arnold Brooks served around this house nearly all his life. He loved horses, and drove an old stagecoach. Dr. Nevin tells us that "he was generously patronized by the college. Especially after commencement time, the students appreciated his services. He drove them over to the little village of Loudon, thus reaching the great turnpike road to Chambersburg. Then it was that Arnold Brooks was in his full glory. Mounted on the lofty box of his great, lumbering stage-coach, balanced by its crammed boot before and its enormous bulk of covered baggage behind, a whole crew of jolly students within, and one or two on the top, or on the box beside him, outside, with whip in hand and under his reins four spirited horses, he created quite a sensation. Through the towns and hamlets, as he rattled along, the dogs commenced barking and the boys a-shouting, and from the doors and windows of every house were to be seen young and old thrusting out their heads to ascertain what in the world was the matter." [4]

At the beginning of Marshall College times were hard. Just before President Van Buren delivered his inaugural address the following appeared in the New York *Evening Post* of February 10, 1837: "Bread, meat, rent, fuel! Their prices must come down! The voice of the people shall be heard, and will prevail! The People will meet in the Park, rain or shine at 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon to inquire into the cause of the present unexampled distress and to devise a suitable remedy."

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[3] Nevin, William M. "Old-Times Charioteers." *College Days,* July, 1873.

[4] *Ibid.,* November, 1873.

The Secretary of Marshall College, S. W. Budd, Jr., announced to the patrons, "Boarding is at present much higher than usual, owing to the great scarcity of provisions, but the price of the best does not exceed two dollars a week. In plentiful years it may vary from 1.25 to 1.75."

"Beyond the regular charges of the College," remarked the *Messenger*, "the expenses of students will depend much upon their own economy, and the indulgence of Parents. The morals of the youth, and consequently too, the interests of the Institutions, must be unfavorably influenced by extravagant expenditures, and it is earnestly recommended to Parents to make the allowance of pocket-money as small as possible." [5]

Some of the students struggled for an education almost in pathetic poverty. It certainly was a case of high thinking and plain living. One of the Marshall boys, Dr. George B. Russell, gives the following account of his experiences:

"My funds ran low too after buying needed books. Economy led me to preparing my own meals at a cost of sixty-nine cents a week, to eke out the necessary allowance. It was not just like the widow's meal barrel, either.

"Mentioning cheap boarding, this is how mine cost sixty odd cents a week during part of the college course. There were several 'students' boarding clubs', that is, they rented a house, hired a woman to cook and keep things in order, while the members of the club out of a common treasury met the running expenses at a little over a dollar a week. My means, however, were too limited even to justify me taking membership in one of these, except later for about a year. A more private boarding scheme was at first provided for himself in my room. It cost me less than ten cents a day. Another student in an adjoining room, hearing of my success, asked to be taken into commons as a fellow boarder on equal shares. Then we two became a small club—I chief cook, and he did the errands, going out for the few things we could afford to buy, and also did the washing of the dishes. Mrs. Kreps, a good friend, baked bread for us weekly out of a barrel of flour bought by us. The sugar was rather neatly measured by the spoonful with jealous eyes on each other, in the daily use as the special luxury of the table. The meat, when there was any, the butter, the bread, the corn cakes made of coarse, unsifted meal mixed with water and salt, with a few potatoes baked on a ten plate stove, were all sparingly used. And one cord of hickory wood was made to last for the whole winter for heating and cooking. It was cut up, carried up to the fourth story, and stingily burned by the head cook."[6]

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[5] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 16, 1838.

Dr. Harbaugh wrote: "I like the college well. Of course thus far I have not much enjoyed myself, being altogether strange. I pay $1.87 per week boarding, and the tuition is from ten to eighteen dollars per session. There are about 125 to 130 students. I am studying at present Latin and Greek only. Greek is hard—more so than planing logs or boating on the ice."[7]

Pastor Leinbach, at Myerstown, wrote to the Rev. Mr. Good:

Myerstown April 9th 1846

Dear Sir:

Dr. Beyerle requested me to write to you concerning a room for his sons, as they had not fully fixed upon one before they left. He is willing to let them take the room they had in view, provided you would take them for $1.00 a week, for two meals a day. They purpose furnishing the room themselves, if they are able to procure the necessary furniture in time, when they come. If you would sooner not take them on these conditions, you might perhaps procure a room for them elsewhere near the preparatory, so that they could still board with you. Please inform me about this as soon as possible. . . . Mr. Lahner arrived here on Friday last. Since then he preached once—purposes to preach in the Tulpehocken Church tomorrow, in Jonestown on next Sabbath, and in Lebanon next Wednesday at the Sabbath convention. He gets along very well with the folks here. He is able to ride pretty well already, and after one or two more lessons, he will be qualified for the degree of G.R. (good rider). I will now close and let him fill the remainder of this sheet.

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[6] Russell, *op. cit.*, p. 56.

[7] Quoted by Harbaugh, Linn. *Life of Henry Harbaugh.* Philadelphia, 1900, p. 144.

I remain yours truly
Revd. Jeremiah H. Good A. S. LEINBACH[8]

As to the conduct of the students, there are of course two sides to the question. It probably depended on the students under consideration. Some of their letters and diaries lead one to suppose that Mercersburg was an Eden and the college a Paradise. But the minutes of the faculty are exceedingly revealing, and show that the Old Marshall boys had vices as well as virtues. The following quotation will reveal interesting aspects of student behavior in the forties:

"The general spirit and deportment of the students for the year past, are represented to have been in all respects excellent. The college seems never to have been in a finer condition, in a moral view. There appears to be almost no call for government whatever, in its regular onward course. The college may be said very much to govern itself. It has been said that when it was first proposed to locate the institution at Mercersburg, some of the worthy citizens rather objected to it, as likely to subject the place to the influence of mischievous example, rowdyism, etc. Their idea of a college, was that it must always be a school for disorder and vice, as well as for letters. But this feeling is now fairly annihilated in Mercersburg. Disorders *do* occur of a night, at times, upon the street. But the last persons to be suspected of any participation in it, as a gentleman lately remarked, are the students of Marshall College. To be known as a student rather, is to carry the passport at once of a gentleman, who shrinks from all that is dirty and mean as unworthy of his character. A powerful moral tone is established in the college itself, that serves silently to rebuke and repress every tendency in this direction; and which, it is hoped, may now perpetuate itself, with increasing force from one generation of students still downward to another.

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[8] Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

"The prospects of the institution, in other respects, continue to be encouraging. Mercersburg is full of life. The sound of the workman's hammer is heard from day to day, on all sides. The new church, as before mentioned, is hastening forward to its completion. The two Society Halls will also be finished before a great while. The whole town will present a vastly improved appearance next summer."[9]

This sentiment is corroborated in these selections from Dr. Bausman's diary, the original of which is in the archives of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church:

Aug. 3, 1848

Intelligence reached this place today that Judge Thompson, Prof. of the Law Department of this Institution, died at Chambersburg from a stroke of apoplexy.

Aug. 28, 1848

This being Goethe's birthday and the anniversary of the Goethean Literary Society, recitations were suspended. Went to Parnell's Knob in company with 15 others. In the evening attended our anniversary meeting. The Rev. G. Aughinbaugh delivered the annual address.

Sept. 12, 1848

In the good Providence of God, I have been spared to see another Commencement eve.

Sept. 13, 1848

This was Commencement Day. A class of 25 graduated. The Church was crowded to overflowing and the exercises peculiarly interesting.

Sept. 19, 1848

Packed up and made preparations for leaving.

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[9] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 17, 1845.

Sept. 20, 1848

Left Mercersburg a little before 8 o'clock this morning, in company with Beck and Geiger. Came to Chambersburg at 11, took dinner, and then took the stage for Gettysburg. Got there about 6½ in the evening. Left Gettysburg 6½—got to York at 12. Left at 1½ with the cars, and got to Lancaster at 4.

Rival institution—Pennsylvania College—Gettysburg—Halls of Societies not comparable. Did not acquit themselves as well as our graduates. Every speaker was applauded with stamping and clapping which is positively prohibited with us and certainly such nonsense should be.

Oct. 24, 1848

Left Lancaster 9 o'clock, stopped at Harrisburg all night where we met 3 students. Got to Chambersburg about 12 o'clock.

After we had partaken of a sumptuous dinner at old Pappy Newcomer's, we left for Marshall which we reached about sunset.

Procured a room, got it scrubbed and whitewashed, removed my furniture to the College Building, arranged it, fixed up curtains and also a wardrobe. Received a box with carpet etc. from home.

Nov. 17, 1848

Attended a Lecture on Astronomy in connection with representations of figures both from sacred and profane history on a diagram by means of a magic lantern.

Nov. 23, 1848

Thursday—Thanksgiving Day. The regular duties of College suspended. Dr. Nevin preached in College Chapel this morning. In our human opinion Dr. Nevin is equal if not superior to any of the Literati in our country.

Dec. 22, 1848

Attended 2 recitations this morning. Left this afternoon at one o'clock for Greencastle. Got sick from riding backwards, arrived at three o'clock. I shall have to remain in

Greencastle until morning. Some 6 or 8 Maryland students came along with us, some of whom indulged in their satanical habits, at the expense of the more orderly, by singing mean immodest songs. Then to Chambersburg, left at 8 and arrived at Lancaster at 4 P.M.

Dec. 31, 1848

The European revolutions are indicators of an approaching change in the affairs of the world. What that change will be time will show.

Jan. 3, 1849

Left Lancaster at 8 o'clock this morning—got to Chambersburg about 9 in the evening.

Left Chambersburg in the afternoon with the Hagerstown sleigh—the cars not being able to run—for Greencastle. From thence we came on with the mail and arrived at Marshall College at 4.

Jan. 20, 1849

Debated on the motives of Napoleon Bonaparte in prosecuting his conquests.

One of the students was tried for divulging the proceedings of the Society.

Had orations in the prayer Hall this morning, by members of the Senior Class, in consequence of which we had only one recitation today.

July 29, 1849

Attended Sabbath School this morning. Church preaching by Dr. Nevin on 8th chapter of John 12th verse. At preaching this evening by Prof. Porter on the 11th, 12th, and 13th verses of the 19th chapter of 2 Kings. He had the Hon. James Buchanan as a hearer.

July 31, 1849

Took a lesson in drawing. Went to a meeting of Glee Club.

Aug. 3, 1849

Day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer appointed by the President of the United States. Classes suspended. (Cholera.)

Aug. 4, 1849

Attended meeting of Goethean Literary Society this morning. The Members of the Senior Class took their leave from Society with a short address from each one. The scene was very affecting, such as I have never witnessed in Society before. Sometimes half the members were bathed in tears. Some of the speakers were so much affected that it was difficult for them to speak. Fear of cholera.—

Aug. 13, 1849

Went to Chambersburg this morning to see General *Taylor*. Saw him and heard him deliver a short reply to a congratulatory address from the Hon. Mr. Chambers. I presume there was no man since the days of the illustrious Washington who was more honored than General Taylor.

Our party consisting of nine who went in a carriage of which I was the driver, left Chambersburg about 10 o'clock in the evening.

Fireworks. On our road coming home, the night being pretty dark and the road being rough in some places—we upset the carriage about 4 miles from home. No one of the party was injured which seemed almost a miracle. We arrived home about 3 o'clock in the morning with no limbs broken, but the carriage very materially damaged.

Sat., Aug. 18, 1849

The circus came to town this morning. The canvass is but a few hundred yards from my window. They have a most excellent band. Their sweet music charmed me so much that I could do little else but listen all afternoon and evening.

Aug. 20, 1849

Had recitations this morning only, those of the afternoon were suspended in order to afford us an opportunity to attend the exhibition of a menagerie.

Aug. 28, 1849

Regular exercises were suspended today to afford our Society an opportunity to celebrate Goethe's birthday.

Wed., Sept. 12, 1849

Commencement. This was a glorious day in the history of Marshall College. An unusual number of strangers were here from abroad. The exercises with one or two exceptions came off number one. The music was eulogized as of a character that can rarely be beat.

One of the most interesting Commencements. The afternoon exercises having closed we were moved to participate in a repast, which was finely gotten up; ice cream, lemonade and pound cake served in rich profusion.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 1849

Received a letter from brother Philip, in which it was stated that the Board of Trustees of Franklin College have come to terms with regard to removing Marshall College to Lancaster. Students are very much excited, and desire to see it removed with few or no exceptions.

From the minutes of the faculty of Marshall College from 1842 to 1852 we learn some of the more sinister aspects of student life.

We have a case in which two boys were brought up on a charge of throwing a stick of wood down the stairs, to the disturbance of the Goethean Society then in session in the prayer hall. We have the instance of a student who was brought up on a charge of habitually absenting himself from college exercises and presenting the excuse that his eyes were weak. One student was fined a dollar for injury done to the seats in the prayer hall. Another was brought up for blowing a horn during the study hours on Saturday night; he was suspended indefinitely by the unanimous vote of the faculty. Another was charged with being found in Professor Budd's recitation room under circumstances calculated to fix upon him a suspicion of firing a pistol in the college edifice. A student complained to the faculty of rude behavior on the part of several students while he was gallanting a company of ladies through the building. Some of them were publicly reprimanded for being engaged in disorderly conduct upon the street. Some were excused from attendance at classes for the purpose of going to Washington before Congress should adjourn, so as to canvass Congressmen for donations toward the erection of the society halls.

Monday evening, Nov. 4th, 1850

Faculty met. All present. Some students were reported to the Faculty as having been assembled on Friday night last, after nine o'clock (study hours) in Mr. C's room, having a bucket-full of egg-nog of which they were partaking. On motion it was resolved that Messrs. C— and S— who, it appeared, were two of the prime movers in this meeting, on this account and on account also of their previous irregular conduct in former sessions, be suspended from the Institution. Fac. adjourned.

WILLIAM M. NEVIN, *Sec.*

Tuesday Evening, May 10th, 1847

A case calling for discipline came up this evening. Mr. K—— of the Freshman class, was charged by Mr. S—— of the Sophomore class, with having struck him with his fist on the face. The circumstances, as brought to light by witnesses, were as follow: At the opening of the present session, amid a group of students before Mr. M's boarding house, Mr. W——, a Diagnothian, remarked, in the way of influencing new students in their choice, that some members of the Goethean Society had advised their brothers to join the Diagnothian Society, no doubt because they thought that it was the better. Mr. S——, being a Goethean, remarked that this had been done, if done at all, by such brothers not on account of their considering the Diagnothian the better Society, as he thought, but because they knew very well that their brothers would be no ornaments to any Society, being nothing but loafers and drunkards at best. Mr. P——, however, of the Senior class, he admitted was an exception. He was an upright, honorable gentleman. He mentioned no other names; but Mr. V—— of the Sophomore class, and Mr. K—— of the Freshman, who were not present at this talk, are the only two other Diagnothians, besides Mr. P——, now in the Institution, whose brothers while at college, had been active members of the opposite Society. They soon heard of it, however. A few days afterwards, therefore, as Mr. S—— was walking with Mr. Kl—— from town to college, he was overtaken by Mr. V—— who told him of this remark mentioned above, and asked him (S——) if he meant to call him (V——) a loafer and a drunkard. Mr. S—— said he did not. Then up came Mr. K—— who asked the same question respecting himself. Mr. S—— said the remark was general—Whereupon Mr. K—— struck him in the face. The faculty thought that the general remark of Mr. S——, which in this case was almost particular, was altogether out of place and provoking, but that the stroke of Mr. K—— was a much more heinous offence. They resolved, therefore, that Mr. S—— be censured for his general remark and Mr. K—— publicly reproved. The performance of this duty was assigned to Dr. Green, the president being absent.

WILLIAM M. NEVIN, *Sec.*

Monday Sept. 6th 1847.

Messrs. G——, D——, K——, and S—— of the College and P—— of the Preparatory, on a charge of having been engaged in the fray which took place last Saturday night, after ten o'clock, between some of the students, of the college and some of the Mechanics of the town, were this evening cited to appear before the Faculty. From testimony it appeared that the quarrel had been brewing for a week or two previous, and that the provocation in the first place, and in a great measure throughout, had no doubt been on the part of the mechanics. After a careful examination of the circumstances it was resolved by the Faculty that Messrs. G—— and D——, tho' not engaged in the fray, be both slightly censured for being on the street as spectators in study hours, especially as they had been remanded to their rooms by Mr. R—— earlier in the evening. In the case of Mr. D—— too the Faculty thought it wrong in him that earlier in the evening, he had taken the least notice whatever of an insult, the blowing of tobacco smoke in his face, as he passed him on the street, by a low fellow of the town; the notice taken in all such cases being more gratifying to such low fellows than an overlooking of them altogether.[10]

At the memorial reunion of the semi-centennial of educational work at Mercersburg in 1886 Dr. Traill Green delivered an address at a banquet, in which he gave the following picture of life at Mercersburg in early days:

"I came to Mercersburg College in May, 1844, and landed at the hotel there. There was a railroad across to Greencastle, and I used to hear the boys talking about it afterwards. They said there was a man on crutches going along that road, and the conductor said to him, 'Won't you come in and ride?' The man says, 'No, I'm in a hurry.' I was landed in the Diamond. Of course my errand was to report here, so I found out where the President resided, and called upon him. And let me say that I was never so impressed in my life by the intellectual appearance of a gentleman; never. We were all impressed, of course, by the beauty of the ladies; that is not an uncommon thing. But I never stood before a gentleman who impressed me as Dr. Nevin did on that occasion. There was intelligence in that face, and there was gentlemanly character about Dr. Nevin, and the impression has never been erased from my mind. I had reverence for him always.

"Well, he opened his house to me. I had no wife; I came here alone, and my apparatus for teaching was left behind. You know in what condition a teacher is when he has none of his implements; a great many things he wants to use. The Doctor said, 'You stay with me until your goods come on.' I spent two or three weeks with him, and of course became thoroughly acquainted with him, and we had a great many pleasant conversations. Now, I have been associated more or less with seven college presidents in my life; and I have known about a dozen of them; but, I tell you, Dr. Nevin was a grand president. There was one thing that proves that the Doctor knew how to fill the place; the students had great respect for him. I never knew anything to be done that showed the least want of respect toward the President of this college.

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[10] Minutes of the Faculty of Marshall College, in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

"We had, soon after I came in, Rev. Gardner Jones, who was a fine Latin scholar, and knew how to take care of his class. He told me that on one occasion during the winter, when we had wood stoves here, he went into the room, and it was filled with smoke. Mischievous students are generally pretty good students, though, if this mischievousness were in them without coming out, they would be quite as good, of course. They will let it out in the classroom. Some one had gone in, and lifted the stove-pipe off, and filled it up with paper. By the time the class came in, the room was pretty full of smoke. He took his place, but the class was not very easy. One wanted to put up the window, but he says, 'Oh, no! I cannot teach in a draught.' He smoked them well. If any of you are going to teach, never let a class get ahead of you; never let a boy get ahead of you; never let anybody get ahead of you. The Professor got ahead that time, I assure you."[11]

The spirit of old Marshall College and its student life has been interpreted at its best by one of the professors, Dr. William M. Nevin, who, under the pseudonym of "Solomon Sobersides," wrote a series of essays in the vein of Charles Lamb or Washington Irving. Their humor is irresistible and the facts, though clothed with a certain facetiousness and exaggerated imaginativeness, undoubtedly have a strong basis of truth. The following extracts and anecdotes will lead the reader straight into the atmosphere of Old Marshall in its more charming phases:

(1)

In no practice, indeed, did the members of the two societies more heartily unite and enjoy themselves than in that of smoking. Not as a baneful indulgence too, as it is, was this regarded by them, but as a scholarly accomplishment. They loved it not only for its own sake but for its literary associations. The Diagnothian, while using his pipe, fondly resembled himself in this respect to Sir Walter Raleigh or Sir Isaac Newton or Charles Lamb, or whatever other English worthy he called to mind, who, in his studies, he knew, was wont to regale himself after this same soothing fashion. The Goethean, too, while enjoying his meerschaum, was happy to know that in this particular his mode of life was in strict conformity to that of the German student in any of the universities.

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[11] *Memorial Re-union in Commemoration of the Educational Work of the Reformed Church . . . begun at Mercersburg, Pa. September 7 and 8, 1886.*

Every greenhorn, on his first arrival at college, for the rendering him more savory and wholesome, was generally made, by the students, to undergo a proper seasoning, somewhat like that to which your fresh and pickeled bacon is submitted in a smoke-house. By a knot of inveterate smokers, having been inveigled into one of their rooms for the purpose, was he cordially welcomed and hospitably entertained. With the most amusing anecdotes and catches of old college songs and stories was he regaled by some; while of these the enjoyment by the others in attendance was seemingly entered into with the keenest zest, as scattered around they were lazily lounging and partaking of their social whiffs at their tobacco pipes. By them these peaceful instruments, indeed, were plied so vigorously as, at length, from their continued exhalations, to cause the whole party, and himself especially, to be enveloped in a cloud of the rankest, densest, murkiest, yea, even palpable and impenetrable, smoke! To these habitual inhalers of such atmosphere was not this black effusion of their own, as is not also that of the cuttle-fish to itself, apparently in any way discommoding; but to the young novitiate it was almost insupportable. Still he generally made out to grin through it without any complaint or attempts at leaving the company, inasmuch as by so doing he feared he would be betraying some lack of good breeding or hurting the delicate sensibilities of such a jolly set of "hail-fellows well met" as these undoubtedly were; which now especially was he the more reluctant to do, seeing that they were trying their very best, as he could easily discover, even through the smoke, to make themselves as pleasing as possible to himself, their newly received and adopted fellow and associate. This was what they called *hazing*.[12]

(2)

When some young freshmen or sophomores returning home after a hard day's hunt, came marching up the campus, each bearing, in the pride of his heart, on his shoulder or in his two hands, a pair of amazingly large and fat wild turkeys, which they had shot in the mountains, the admiration of all eyes, it not infrequently came to pass, a few days afterward, that some farmer, walking abroad to take a general survey and strict account of his live stock, would be surprised to find that, seemingly as a natural consequence of the brilliant success of these young sportsmen in fowling, just as many wild turkeys as they, by their sharp shooting had succeeded in securing on the mountains, precisely so many fine, fat tame turkies, of equal size and value, had since mysteriously disappeared from his barn-yard.[13]

(3)

Dr. Traill Green, Professor of Science, took the boys on geological and botanical expeditions and, as they were not slow to observe, was possessed of a charmed eye for the romantic. Often in his rambles would he be conducting them to some choice look-outs on the mountain side commanding the finest views, or into some rare caves of his own discovery, narrow and difficult, indeed, at their first entrance, and leading often over the steepest ascents of petrified waterfalls, or through the most intricate passages under the rocks.

It was, however, with a cave he introduced them to, possessed by a widow lady in the country, who kept it concealed far down in a well, having its entrance in the side thereof, to be reached only by a windlass, that, on account of its romantic connections, the students were best pleased; into which, however, they could gain no admittance unless under the most solemn promise that while in it they would not be breaking off any of its icicles, or be indulging in any loud shoutings, to create an echo, as they would thus be disturbing the repose of the gentle Still-Folk, dwelling deep down and far away in its inmost recesses; who had, from sheer attachment, come over to this country from Germany, long ago, with her forefathers; and who were still occasionally wont to come out at nights, unheard and unseen, to do the family some quiet services.

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[12] Nevin, William M. "Boys of Old Marshall—Their Smoking Propensities," *College Days,* June, 1873.

[13] Nevin, William M. "Sobersides Papers." *Ibid.,* October, 1874.

Thus were the students gradually led into an ardent love for the natural sciences.[14]

(4)

Dr. Traill Green, while lecturing on botany, on coming to the plant called *Nicotiana Tobacum,* for abating the nuisance, thought it necessary to devote to this a whole lecture. Not to a single class of students was this delivered, but to all of them promiscuously assembled.

In this instance was admirably maintained by the students that marked deference and worshipful respect, which, indeed, never on any occasion was laid aside by them, but always shown to their professors. Sitting under an invective against their favorite weed, more impassioned even than was the famous counterblast of James the First of England, they nevertheless preserved a respectful silence. No drawing forth whatever was there of concealed cudgels to banish them, nor irreverent hissing, nor unmannerly whistling, nor, indeed, any of your noisy, vulgar demonstrations of dissatisfaction. Merely to soothe their agitated nerves, they drew forth from their side-pockets their pipes of peace; which having ignited they commenced quietly smoking, thus throwing around themselves, in a short time, a dense cloud of smoke, which served, at the same time, to conceal any expression of abashment or even displeasure which might be manifesting itself on their faces. As the smoke increased so also did the thunder and lightning of the professor. When, however, having finished his harangue he threw open the windows to dissipate the fume, how wonderfully surprised was he to discover that his hearers, instead of being there still seated, as he had certainly expected, subdued and penitent, had all to a man, having taken advantage of their concealment under the cloud, stolen away in noiseless succession, and that, for two full hours more, had he been furiously fulminating and expending his best ammunition, not on themselves at all, but, as *brutum fulmen,* on their vacated benches! [15]

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[14] *Ibid.,* December, 1874.

(5)

Though for boat-racing or regattas, Back Creek, a branch of the Conococheague, was sufficiently deep and wide, especially where it was restrained in its course by mill-dams across it, retarding and becalming its waters for a long distance above, yet it was never used for this purpose. The students, indeed, had their aquatic skirmishes, but these they never conducted in boats. Ranged on the opposite shores of this stream, the Diagnothians on the one side and the Goetheans on the other, all stripped to the skin, after wading toward each other until breast-deep, such a flirting of the water did they commence, striking its surface horizontally with the balls of their hands, with such force, alacrity, and precision kept up, as utterly to blind for a while with its dash the eyes of their respective antagonists on opposite sides; after which the foremost of them on both sides, striking forward towards each other in a swim, they would at length, coming together, seize violently upon one another, two by two, each trying to submerge his fellow, which feat he that gained the ascendency would perform most effectually and unmercifully, not once, but several times; never, however, it must be said, carrying out the game so far as to cause his adversary to be actually drowned.

Into this game, on account of its healthfulness, the students had first been initiated in earliest times by Frederick the Great [Dr. Rauch]; who, to insure its prestige and give it more renown, occasionally condescended to take a part in it himself. From his zeal for its advancement, indeed, he is said even to have risked at times the preservation of his dignity. Standing, on one occasion, up to the breast in water, at the head of the Goetheans to encourage them, as we are told, he was, by some unseen Diagnothian, who had covertly dived underneath the stream from the opposite side, unceremoniously and irreverently seized by his two great toes, and with a sudden jerk unexpectedly upset and submerged beneath the wave! an indignity of a sort which, certainly, could never have been attempted to be practised upon him by any one had he been standing out of the water in his full costume; thus shewing how much, for that respect and honor which is daily being paid to us by others, we are all indebted, even the best and most deserving of us, to our clothes!

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[15] Nevin, William M. "Boys of Old Marshall—Their Smoking Propensities." *Ibid.,* June, 1873.

In his own day the perpetrator of this disloyal and dastardly act was never discovered; and, indeed, even down to the present time, his name, like that of the daring, concealed writer of the Letters of Junius, remains unknown.[16]

As in every other educational institution, so at Marshall College the greatest event of the year was the commencement, which usually took place in September. After the college was fully organized the commencement festivities spread over three days. On the evening of the first day, which was a Monday, an address would be delivered before the Rauch and Schiller Societies, two offshoots of the regular literary societies which were organized for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the rich treasures of German literature and science. This event was later replaced by a literary exhibition by the junior class. The second day (Tuesday) had three functions: in the morning there was the examination of students before the whole faculty and Board of Trustees of the institution; in the afternoon there was the literary society oration, delivered in the Presbyterian Church following a procession from the Seminary Building in which the faculty of the college, the trustees of both the college and the seminary, and the honorary and regular members of the societies took part; and in the evening there was an address, sometimes two hours in length. On Wednesday morning the grand finale of the year took place when the graduating class delivered its orations and degrees were conferred by the president of the institution. The following accounts of several commencements will give the reader a fair idea of the nature of these events:

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[16] Nevin, William M. "Sobersides Papers." *Ibid.*, November, 1874.

(1)

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

. . . On the day previous, the Diagnothian and Goethean Literary Societies of the College, celebrated their anniversary. On this occasion, the Rev. Albert Barnes delivered an address before a large and respectable audience, which was listened to throughout with marked attention. The present state of Science, contrasted with that of the ancients, constituted the theme of the speaker. . . . In the evening, addresses were delivered by five or six young gentlemen, of the Junior class, which were, generally, indicative of no inconsiderable share of mental improvement.

Indeed, some of them acquitted themselves remarkably well. The subjects were as varied as the mixed audience could have wished. Whilst one descanted on the affairs of the *Navy*, another directed his attention to elucidate some principle in Philosophy—and so on. Among the rest, we listened to a very sensible address on the beneficial tendency of religious festivals, and were not a little pleased at the happy manner in which he introduced the subject of the proposed "*Centenary*" of the German Reformed Church, the nature of which, and the manner in which it would be most likely to produce happy results, he set forth in a pleasing and interesting light.

On Wednesday morning, a large number of strangers and citizens formed in procession in front of the Seminary Edifice, and were escorted amid the delightful and harmonious strains from the Smithsburg Band of Music to the church. The clouded morning was followed by a bright sunshine—but scarcely more bright, we presume, than the sunny prospect which lay before the graduating class of Marshall College, who were expecting henceforward to turn a new leaf in the history of their lives.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

I—Prayer, by the President. II—Music. III—Oration—Spain and the causes of its downfall, by G. D. Wolff. IV—Oration—History of Political liberty in Poland, by Jacob Heyser. V—Music. VI—Oration—Utility of the study of ancient languages, by Wm. Mayburry. VII—Oration—On the influence of suggestion on our habits of thinking and acting, by T. C. Hoffeditz. VIII—Music. IX—Valedictory, by D. H. Hofius. X—Music. XI—Degrees conferred. XII—Music. XIII—Benediction.

. . . We are happy to be enabled to state, that the prospects of endowing the College permanently, are exceedingly flattering. The Trustees have resolved upon the erection of a College Edifice forthwith which will be commenced, we presume, next spring.

One thing we had almost forgotten to mention, and we consider it by no means a small recommendation to the College, and that is—The uniformly correct and gentlemanly deportment of the students. Where upwards of one hundred young men are thrown together from different parts of the Union, it would be strange indeed, if there were not among them those, who " swerved from virtue's path." And we take it for granted, that there are such among the students of Marshall College. And yet we were told by the Faculty, that during the whole of the Summer Session, the deportment of the students had been such, as not to demand the exercise of a single case of discipline. And the testimony of the citizens of Mercersburg, so far as we had an opportunity of hearing it occasionally and of their own accord expressed, corroborated the foregoing remarks.[17]

(2)

MARSHALL COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

1841

On Tuesday afternoon the Goethean and Diagnothian Literary Societies celebrated their anniversary.—At two o'clock the Professors, Trustees of the College and Seminary,

[17] *Reformed Church Messenger,* October 7, 1840.

Honorary members of the societies, and the Students of the College, formed in procession at the Seminary buildings, and preceded by a band of music, proceeded thence to the Presbyterian Church. The procession was large and presented a very imposing appearance. We were peculiarly struck with the good order that prevailed, and the gentlemanly appearance and conduct of the students. The church, which was occupied in preference to either of the others on account of its capacity, was crowded to overflowing, and then was insufficient to accommodate the vast assemblage that were present on the occasion. The address before the Societies was delivered by Professor Frost, of Philadelphia.—He dwelt particularly upon the influence of literature, and the consequent duty of American scholars to American literature. His style was simple, chaste, and classic, and his manner easy and deliberate. We were particularly pleased with the portraiture he gave of the influence of the great body of fictitious writings.

In the evening the Junior Class held their exhibition. The young men without exception acquitted themselves well. The class evinced considerable talent in their performances. . . .

The commencement exercises took place on Wednesday. . . . The procession and preliminaries were somewhat similar to those which preceded the exercises of the previous day. The audience was probably greater than on that occasion. The exercises commenced in the church at eleven o'clock, and were opened with prayer by the President, the Rev. Dr. Nevin. The first performance was the Inaugural Address of Dr. Green, Professor of Natural Sciences. His subject was *The objects, usefulness, application, and pleasures of Science.* This performance was a masterly one, marked by comprehensive and enlightened views, and conveyed in a chaste and elegant style. In it he evinced both the Christian and the scholar. The Professor won for himself distinguished laurels. Every one present was more than gratified with his performance. . . .

The address of Professor Green was succeeded by the performances of the graduating class. These are all spoken of as being highly creditable to the young gentlemen. The Salutatory and Valedictory addresses are represented as possessing peculiar merit. The latter especially, was distinguished by much delicate fancy, and fine and fervent feeling.

At the close of the exercises the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on the following young gentlemen: D. B. Ernst, H. Funk, O. C. Hartley, J. Ingold, and J. L. Reynolds. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on the Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, Moses Kieffer, George W. Williard, Messrs. E. V. Gerhart, Geo. H. Martin, and A. S. Young, in course. The Honorary degree of Master of Arts on Messrs. Gardner Jones and John Henry Kluge, Principal of the Lebanon Academy. The degree of Bachelor of Laws on Edward C. Washington. The degree of Doctor of Divinity on the Rev. J. C. Becker, Samuel Helffenstein, Sen., and Thomas M. Strong.[18]

(3)

MARSHALL COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

1842

. . . On Monday evening a German address was delivered before the Rauch German Literary Society by S. H. Lind, teacher of German in Marshall College. The performance is spoken of as being creditable to its author.

The forenoon of Tuesday, from 9 until 12 o'clock, was occupied with the examination of the students in the Seminary. In the afternoon the Anniversary of the Literary Societies was observed. The procession, composed of the Faculty of the College, the Trustees of both the College and the Seminary, and the honorary and regular members of the Societies, formed at the Seminary buildings at 2 o'clock, and moved thence to the Presbyterian church, preceded by the Harper's Ferry Band. The address was delivered by the Rev. G. W. Burnap of Baltimore. His subject was "The appropriate education and peculiar responsibilities of professional men in America."

. . . In the evening the Alumni of the College held their annual meeting. An address was delivered on the occasion by the Rev. E. V. Gerhart.

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[18] *Ibid.*, October 6, 1841.

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES were observed on Wednesday. At 11 o'clock, A.M., the procession formed at the Seminary buildings, and moved thence, as on the day previous, to the Presbyterian church. The building was literally crowded with spectators. A great gathering was present, among whom it was gratifying to observe, many distinguished strangers from abroad. On no previous occasion were the different Boards connected with the institutions so fully represented. The exercises were opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Nevin, and interspersed with music from the Harper's Ferry Band. The Latin Salutatory was delivered by Theodore Apple, and the English Salutatory by John Cessna. Addresses were delivered by Geo. W. Brewer, Henry Hoffman, H. A. Mish, Geo. L. Staley, and J. H. Vandyke. The valedictory was pronounced by Jeremiah H. Good. The young men all acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to themselves and to the institution. The degree of A.B. was conferred upon the graduating class composed of the above named young men and Reuben Good, who was absent by permission. The degree of A.M. was conferred upon the following persons in course: Rev. G. W. Welker, S. S. Middlekauf, Wm. Philips, Dr. R. P. Little, Mr. R. S. Dean, and S. H. Reid. The honorary degree of A.M. was conferred upon the Rev. Mr. Earnest, of Lebanon, Pa., and that of D.D. upon the Rev. T. L. Hoffeditz, of Richmond, Pa., and Rev. A. T. McGill, of the Western Theological Seminary, Alleghenytown, Pa. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon the Hon. James Buchanan, and Hon. B. Champneys, of Lancaster, Pa.

The prospects of Marshall College are very flattering. . . .[19]

(4)

MARSHALL COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

1844

will be held Wednesday, Sept. 25 in the German Reformed Church at *Chambersburg*. The cars will leave Greencastle for this place at half past 7 o'clock in the morning, and will convey passengers on that occasion at half the usual price. . . . An address will also be delivered in the evening by the Rev. Dr. Nevin, the President of the College, on the "Importance of combining the German and English forms of thinking, in the educational system of Pennsylvania, with reference particularly to the character and claims of Marshall College."[20]

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[19] *Ibid.*, October 5, 1842.

(5)

COMMENCEMENT OF MARSHALL COLLEGE

CHAMBERSBURG, 1844

[Abstracts from the *Messenger's* account]

Procession headed by Chambersburg band—to German Reformed Church

Program:

Prayer by President of College.

1. The Salutatory address by Mr. Thomas Kennedy, Pa.
2. An Oration by Mr. Henry Heckerman, Pa.; subject, *The Rubicon of Life.*
3. An Oration by Mr. A. J. M. Hudson, Va.; subject, *Relation between Great Men and their Times.*
4. An Oration by Mr. John S. King, Pa.; subject, *The Progress of Liberty.*
5. An Oration by Mr. Peter Negley, Md.; subject, *Our National Mind.*
6. An Oration by Mr. N. S. Strassburger, Pa.; subject, *Philanthropy.*
7. The *Valedictory*, by Mr. G. W. Aughinbaugh, Pa.

Length of exercises: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Parker Little, M.D. of Mercersburg, substituted for the Rev. Dr. Green of the Western Theological Seminary at Allegheny, who was prevented by illness from coming to address the gathering. Little's subject (before the Alumni Association): "The peculiar obligations and duties resting at this time on educated men, particularly in the United States."

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[20] *Ibid.*, September 18, 1844.

In the evening, President Nevin delivered an address "on the importance of combining to a much greater extent than has yet been done the German and English *systems* of forms of thinking, in the educational system of Pennsylvania, with reference particularly to the constitution and claims of Marshall College."

Degrees:

A.B.: Those already named, plus J. M. Stearns of New Hampshire.
A.M. in course: D. B. Ernst, Henry Funk, Oliver C. Hartley, Jeremiah Ingold, and James L. Reynolds. (All of Class of '41.)
Honorary A.M.: Joseph Alison, Esq. of Philadelphia.
Honorary D.D.: Rev. Frederick L. Herman, of Montgomery County. (The last survivor of the missionaries sent by the Synod of Holland, during the last century, to supply the destitutions of the German population in the United States.) And Rev. Henry Augustus Boardman, of the Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia.

"It speaks a great deal for the character of the institution itself, that such a number of students, fresh from the restraints of a college term, should have been thrown in a body, with such entire safety, into a strange place to take care of themselves. The result of the experiment in this view however, has been entirely satisfactory."[21]

The atmosphere of Marshall College was intensely religious. In the first years of the life of the school the students were aroused from their slumbers at six o'clock during winter and five o'clock during summer by a Chinese gong which was later replaced by a triangle made by a blacksmith. One of the students writes, "The noise of the Chinese gong in the hands of a tutor waxed louder and louder as it went from corridor to corridor until it passed the door of each student's room. Lamps were lighted and the building from its numerous windows was all of a sudden illuminated. We then all of us assembled in the place of prayer. In the winter the hall was without fire and was cold as a barn, but the prayers were short."[22] After that the students went to their rooms until called to breakfast. A few years later, through the influence of Dr. Green, the morning prayers were deferred until after breakfast, and then later were advanced to a period just preceding the first recitation at nine o'clock. After the study hours and recitations of the day, at five o'clock all the students were called together once more to prayer. The faculty were all in attendance. All the students went to chapel every Sunday and heard a sermon, usually by one of the professors. The sermon was frequently commented upon by the other professors in the recitations on Monday morning. After the beautiful new house of worship was built by the Mercersburg Reformed congregation the college folks would unite with the congregation on communion occasions. The students frequently helped in the work of the Bible classes and Sunday Schools throughout the neighborhood. Dr. Harbaugh, while a student at Mercersburg, wrote, "I got my cold by walking to the country to address a Sunday School. I have established a Bible class about two miles from town, among the young folks of the country. They are very attentive and take a great interest in it. I meet them on every Sunday afternoon at half-past three o'clock. The class is composed of about fifteen young persons, and is still increasing."[23]

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[21] *Ibid.*, October 2, 1844.

When Dr. Schaff came to Mercersburg he emphasized in his teaching the value of the proper observance of religious festivals. The effect of his influence was soon deeply felt in a greater appreciation of the significance of the church year and the religious observance of the Christmas holidays, Good Friday, and Easter with all their holy associations.

[22] Appel. *Recollections of College Life,* p. 120.

[23] Quoted by Harbaugh, Linn, *op. cit.,* p. 150.

Chapter XV

The Faculty of Old Marshall

OLD Marshall College had no building of its own. It lived in the rented rooms of Old Main Hall, the property of the Theological Seminary. The college had meagre equipment but it always maintained a faculty of few but choice spirits. These men, under the leadership of Presidents Rauch and J. W. Nevin, helped to give the school a reputation for scholarship that was really amazing.

"If I had a thousand sons," said a gentleman, father of one of the students, "I would send them all to Marshall College. Commend me to a college, shut out from the world of business, nonsense and dissipation, where there is nothing to withdraw the attention of my boy from his books; not a tippling shop or gambling house or any other place of idle resort permitted by the police of the place, but where the most lovely scenery invites to the admiration and enjoyment of nature's beauties and a *first rate faculty of instruction* wins the scholar almost without effort, into the pleasant paths of sound learning."[1]

Among the members of the first rate faculty in the earliest years was Samuel W. Budd, Jr., who had come with the institution from York, and remained with it until his death on September 21, 1846, in his thirty-fourth year. The President of the Board of Trustees, Dr. J. W. Nevin, gave the following account of his estimate of Mr. Budd in a published statement:

"Mr. Budd was born at Pemberton, in the State of New Jersey. His education carried him in early youth to Princeton. Here he graduated, with high credit to himself, in the year 1830.

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[1] Quoted by the *Reformed Church Messenger,* October 13, 1841, from an article in the *United States Gazette.*

"The high opinion entertained of him by the Faculty of the College, led them subsequently, on application made to them for the purpose, to designate him as a suitable person to be appointed to the chair of Mathematics, in the High School connected with the Theological Seminary of the German Reformed Church at York. He had been previously to this engaged for some time, as an instructor in a High School, in the city of Baltimore. It may be added moreover, that an offer had been made to him also of the Mathematical tutorship in his *alma mater,* the College of New Jersey. The invitation to York was accepted. Here he became associated accordingly, as assistant teacher, with Dr. Rauch, in the year 1834. When the High School was afterwards transferred to Mercersburg, and erected into a College, with Dr. Rauch as its President, Mr. Budd continued to stand in the same relation to him as a colleague in the Faculty. Since that time his name has been identified with the institution, in the professorship which thus fell into his hands, till it has now become necessary in the providence of God, to have his place supplied by another.

"As an instructor, in his proper department, he was all that the interests of the Institution required. Accurate and complete in the whole compass of what he professed to teach, he possessed at the same time the art of making his knowledge available for the benefit of those he was called to instruct. He was always loved and respected by his pupils.

"The value of the man, however, was much more, than what is comprehended in the idea simply of a good teacher. He was one that could be leaned upon and trusted, in all the relations in which he stood. Integrity and uprightness ruled his whole character, and showed themselves in all his conduct. Those who trusted him, were not disappointed in their confidence. In his intercourse with others, he was always gentle, amiable and kind. His spirit was at the same time uncommonly generous and noble. Plain in his appearance and perfectly unpretending in his manners, he might be counted notwithstanding a model of true courtesy and politeness.

"One of the most striking features of his character was the discreetness, that entered into all his actions and words. No one could well be more prudent, in the use of his tongue; a virtue of the very first consequence in any sphere or station, but especially necessary of course in a situation involving so many difficult and delicate relations, as that of a professor in college. Not only did he carefully refrain from rash, incautious speaking himself; but his presence and manner served always to discourage it also in others, 'as the northwind driveth away rain.'

"His course through life was one of quietness and peace. Few men probably have stood more uninterruptedly on good terms, with all around them. Firm and constant, always in his own appropriate and appointed line of action, he avoided successfully at the same time all collision with the proper course of others, and contrived to pass along with very little offence to any. And still his life was extensively felt on all sides. Without noise or show, it yet wrought with silent power on the whole circle of his connections. . . . His views of religion had been influenced some probably, by the theory of the Society of Friends or Quakers, from whose connection he was descended by birth. He was besides, by his whole constitution, uncommonly reserved and cautious on this whole subject, governed always by reflection far more than feeling. His character, however, was moulded by the precepts of Christianity. . . ."[2]

Professor Budd was a great help to the institution, not only as a teacher of mathematics but as a man of culture and ability, taste and skill, in whom the love of beauty seemed to be born. He designed the architecture of the literary society halls and the landscape gardening of the college plot.

Professor William Marvel Nevin, like his brother John Williamson Nevin, was born in the Cumberland Valley of sturdy Scotch-Irish Presbyterian ancestors. In the fall of 1823 he went to Princeton with his elder brother, and stayed a year. The fact that his father was a trustee of Dickinson College influenced William to spend his last three years at that institution. He graduated from Dickinson in 1827. He had a keen sense of humor. It is said that at his graduation he announced his subject as "The Transmigration of Souls." Everybody expected a philosophical discourse, but before they realized what had happened "they were carried away with roars of laughter which filled the house from the beginning to the end of the oration, abounding as it did with an outflow of rich, original, and genuine humor."[3]

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[2] *Reformed Church Messenger*, September 30, 1846.

After graduation he took up the study of medicine, then entered upon a course of law, but never practiced either profession. He thought that teaching was to be his real life work. For a short time he taught a classical school in Lancaster, Ohio, then became assistant teacher at a girls' school at Braddock's Field, Pennsylvania, then had charge of a high school at Niles, Michigan, and finally helped to conduct a boys' school at Sewickley, Pennsylvania, along the banks of the Ohio River.

He and his brother John were co-editors for a time of a weekly paper called *The Friend,* which was established by the Young Men's Society of Pittsburgh. It showed their common interest in the moral and religious life of young men, although it freely discussed the wider questions of literature, science, and philosophy, and denounced slavery as a national sin. In the editing of this paper William Nevin showed great familiarity with the masters of English literature and occasionally wrote short poems of his own. It was soon evident that he had found his life's work in the field of literature, and that he wished to be a man of letters as well as a teacher.

He came to Mercersburg in the fall of 1840 and took charge of the Department of Ancient Languages and Belles Lettres in Marshall College. The following public announcement appeared shortly before his arrival:

MARSHALL COLLEGE

The Trustees of Marshall College have the pleasure of announcing to the friends of the Institution, that they have secured the services of WILLIAM M. NEVIN, Esq. as

PROFESSOR OF LANGUAGES AND BELLES LETTRES.

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[3] Appel, Theodore. "In Memoriam William M. Nevin." *College Student,* April, 1892.

PROFESSOR NEVIN will enter upon the duties of his appointment at the opening of the Winter Session. The friends of Marshall College can congratulate themselves upon this appointment, as Mr. Nevin is well qualified by education, and experience as a teacher, to discharge the duties of his professorship with advantage to the student and the interests of the Institution.

P. W. LITTLE, *Sec'y*[4]

Mercersburg, Aug. 13, 1840.

Professor Nevin did not speculate on abstruse questions as did his colleagues. He desired to teach boys to express their thoughts in language that was clear, graceful, and tasteful. His purpose was to stimulate students to excel in English composition.

He became a teacher greatly beloved and respected by his students at Marshall College and later at Franklin and Marshall College, where he taught until the time of his death in 1892. Here are two anecdotes, told by men who knew him intimately: "There was something in the personality of this dignified, gentle, modest, refined and courteous scholar which appealed in a peculiar manner to the sometimes irreverent and turbulent students. There was an unwritten law or tradition among them to the effect that while it might be lawful, generally speaking, and in certain emergencies to irritate a professor, this was never lawful in the case of Professor Nevin. That student must be 'mean' indeed who would undertake to irritate a professor so gracious, considerate, and kind."[5]

This incident shows how graciously Professor Nevin could handle a student. "On one occasion a classmate applied for an excuse through his chum. The professor, without asking him any questions, for he surmised the true cause, wrote, 'Mr. ————, the weather being *very hot*, is excused from recitations this afternoon.' The excuse cured all other cases of spring fever for that season."[6]

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[4] *Reformed Church Messenger*, August 19, 1840.

[5] Kieffer, J. S., in the *College Student*, April, 1892.

[6] Schaeffer, N. C., *ibid.*, April, 1892.

All who knew him spoke of his simple, unassuming manner, genial spirit, and infectious humor. He was intensely interested in the college boys and their two literary societies, and some of the finest productions of his graceful pen were written for literary society occasions.

We can choose but one of the poems characteristic of Professor Nevin's productions at Mercersburg, for reprinting in the present volume:

THE FENDER

How many circles it hath graced
  Hath fortune caused to stray;
How many feet once around it placed,
  Have wandered far away;—
Have wandered far away from us
  To other, foreign climes,
And left us to regret their loss
  In social winter times.

Its former joys come fleeting by,
  While thus I sit alone,
With my folding arms and my musing eye—
  And my feet upon it thrown;
With my feet upon it thrown, to think
  Of the smiling forms I knew
Which, still as the clock would to midnight clink,
  The closer round it drew.

The many songs, the social chat,
  And the serious talk at last,
Of the young and gay, that round it sat,
  With them away have passed;—
With them away have passed, but still
  With us the hopes remain
That some of them for their wanderings will
  Return to us again.

With heads all gray they will sit and tell
  Of the hardships they have tried,
And draw us round like a fairy spell,
  Again to the fender's side;
Again to the fender's side, but yet
  Should others never come
We will pray with them again to meet
  Above in a lasting home.[7]

There was very little teaching of science in any of the colleges in America in the early part of the nineteenth century. In Marshall College Dr. Rauch delivered a few lectures on natural history, and Professor Budd lectured on chemistry, without apparatus or experiments; but the distinction of laying the foundations for the study of science at Mercersburg belongs to Dr. Traill Green, who came to the institution in the spring of 1841 and remained in Mercersburg for seven years. Dr. Green was a physician, having taken his degree in medicine in 1835 at the University of Pennsylvania. He returned from the medical school to his home in Easton, practised medicine there, and was appointed to the faculty of the newly established Lafayette College. "He was the first man to give instruction in any scientific subject at Lafayette."[8]

He was not only a member of the Lafayette faculty but also became a member of the Board of Trustees of that institution. When a controversy arose between the members of the Board of Trustees and several members of the faculty over a question in which Dr. Junkin, the president of the institution, became involved, Dr. Green, out of loyalty to Dr. Junkin, resigned from Lafayette. He was soon thereafter chosen as professor of natural science in Marshall College, at a salary of $800 a year.

Dr. Green was an able student of natural science, whose enthusiasm was soon caught by the students in Marshall College. He brought with him to Mercersburg a collection of minerals and provided for himself a limited amount of scientific apparatus. He would take the boys on botanical and geological trips to the top of North Mountain; he would ascend Mount Parnell with them; he would bring up for discussion geological questions relating to the valleys and the watercourses that were a part of the magnificent view from Parnell's Knob; he would climb with the boys through the limestone caves in the surrounding country, and squeeze with them through narrow passages on all fours. "Covered with mire from head to foot, we marched through the village following our professor in advance, with rather a feeling of pride than otherwise. We were in the service of science." [9]

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[7] Reprinted *ibid.* from *The Guardian,* February, 1851.

[8] Skillman, David B. *The Biography of a College.* Easton, 1932, p. 116.

Dr. Green was a Christian gentleman whose influence for good was felt throughout the community in which he taught. He was superintendent of the Sunday School in the old Reformed Church, and held a Bible class for the teachers. He was a devout and reverend interpreter of nature. He delivered a number of scholarly addresses while at Mercersburg, some of which were published. He presented his resignation to the Board of Trustees of Marshall College in March 1848, stating that want of suitable apartments and apparatus had made it necessary for him to seek employment in another sphere of labor. When he returned to Easton he became professor of chemistry in Lafayette College. In 1890–91 he was acting president there, and remained active in the service of the institution until his death on April 29, 1897. He was the author of numerous treatises on scientific subjects and was a great aid in building up the two institutions which he so faithfully served in the interests of science.

Dr. Green's chair of natural sciences was filled after his resignation by Thomas C. Porter, a graduate of Lafayette College who had studied theology at Princeton, after which he became pastor for a short time in Monticello, Georgia. In 1848 he accepted the call of the Second Reformed Church at Reading, Pennsylvania. We will let Dr. Porter tell his own story in the words of a toast that he delivered at a banquet in Mercersburg at the semi-centennial of Marshall College:

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[9] Appel, *Recollections of College Life*, p. 189.

"My friend and colleague, Dr. Green, in response to the toast, has already covered the ground, and left little for me to say; but a few words of personal reminiscence may not be out of place. Our friendship is of ancient date. A professor in Lafayette College, when I took my first degree, he, soon after, came to Mercersburg, and during his residence here, I spent a most pleasant summer as his guest, and thus became acquainted with the town and region round about, and the faculty and students of the College and Seminary. On his retirement in 1849, I was invited to succeed him as teacher of the Natural Sciences. It was no easy thing for a youth of scanty experience to fill such a post, and, as occurs in most cases of the kind, I had an ordeal to pass through. How it was sustained may be illustrated by one incident.

"It fell to my lot to instruct the Seniors in geology. I entered upon the discharge of the duty with the zeal of a novice, and in expatiating on the gigantic reptiles of the Mesozoic Age became unusually animated and eloquent. This amused the boys, and a certain member of the class, who has since reached high distinction and is present here tonight, conceived the idea of reproducing the whole scene for the entertainment of his fellows, occupying my chair and imitating my manner, in the lecture-room before the hour for recitation. He acted the part well, and more than once. It was good fun, and no disrespect meant by it. Although these doings were reported to me, I said nothing and quietly bided my time, which was the final examination at the close of the term. As the custom was, all the faculty were present. The dignified Dr. Nevin, his brother, and the other dons were in their seats, grave as judges. When Mr. (I dare not give his name) was called up, the topic assigned to him (and that, you may be sure, not by chance) was "Tell us all you know about the Ichthyosauri, the Plesiosauri and the *huge* Iguanodons of the Reptilian Period." A brief pause ensued; his classmates saw the point and burst into a roar of laughter; the gentleman blushed scarlet and could not utter a word—and the faculty were astounded. When the cause of the explosion became known, it was regarded as an excellent joke, and the reputation of the new professor gained strength in the college." [10]

Eminent authorities say that Dr. Thomas Conrad Porter was the first authority in the State of Pennsylvania in the science of botany. Dr. N. L. Britton, of Columbia University, said that as early as 1840 Porter began collecting, and made a critical study of the plants of his native state, and that this work was continued almost without interruption to the end of his life. He personally explored, at one time or another, nearly all portions of the state. In 1846 he explored northern Georgia in the company of the distinguished naturalist Dr. Joseph LeConte. He had one of the most important accumulations of botanical specimens in the country.[11]

While at Mercersburg, Dr. Porter was married to Susan Kunkel, of Harrisburg, a very gifted woman with a fine appreciation of literature, as some of her translations and narratives clearly show. Dr. Porter was at Mercersburg for five years, then went with Marshall College to Lancaster until 1866, when he was called back to Lafayette College, his Alma Mater, as professor of Botany, Zoology, and General Geology.

He was interested not only in science but in the whole field of English literature. He delighted in poetry. The writer heard some of his acquaintances of earlier days say that they never knew a man whose memory was so fully stored with poetry. He could recite long poems with a great deal of expression and discuss them with a keen sense of critical appreciation. In addition to his scientific contributions in the field of botany, he issued a volume of English translations which he had made in verse from the Latin hymns, from the Odes of Horace, and from the German writers of lyrics. He entered into a controversy with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow on the close relation between Kalewala, the Finnish epic, and Hiawatha.

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[10] *Memorial Re-union . . . at Mercersburg . . . September 7 and 8, 1886.*

[11] Porter, Thomas C., *Essays, Verses, and Translations.* Chambersburg, n. d. p. 24.

Dr. Porter loved Mercersburg and the educational institutions there. He said: "To me this is historic ground. Here I spent my days as a young professor in the full flush of youth and vigor and earnestness. It was a training school for me of no mean order, and I feel profoundly grateful to have been associated with such a great and good man as Dr. Nevin, and his worthy colleagues." [12]

After Dr. Porter left Mercersburg, he spent, as we have said, thirteen years in the department of science at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa. His most enduring monument there is the beauty of the college campus with its grove of trees of many rare species, carefully selected and planted through the agency of this truly great botanist.

After the death of the professor of mathematics, Samuel W. Budd, in 1846, the trustees of Marshall College elected Thomas D. Baird, Esq. in 1847, and he continued to fill the position of professor of mathematics, mechanical philosophy, and political economy with marked ability till 1850. Professor Baird was twenty-eight years of age when he came to Mercersburg. He had received his degree at Jefferson College, now Washington and Jefferson College, in Washington County, Pennsylvania. At the age of twenty-one, he taught in the Baltimore High School. After leaving Mercersburg, he returned to Baltimore and conducted a private school and then accepted a professorship in Westminster College, Missouri. He later returned to Baltimore and was elected principal of the High School, known at the time as Baltimore City College, a position which he filled very ably until his death in 1873.

Professor Baird's reason for leaving Marshall College in 1850 was that the college was approaching a period of uncertainty and a rather desperate financial condition, as the following manuscript shows:

"Inasmuch as it is found necessary to contract the present scale of expense in the current operations of the College, and in view of the action taken by the Synod of the German R. Church last fall, having for its object the transfer of the Periodicals of the Church to this place:

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[12] *Memorial Re-union . . . at Mercersburg . . . September 7 and 8, 1886.*

"*Resolved,* That the salary of the Professorship of Mathematics be reduced to a sum not exceeding $500 per annum; the reduction to take effect on the 1st of April, 1850.

"*Resolved,* That a Committee be appointed to lay before the Synod of the G. R. Church at its next meeting, either personally or by letter, the respectful request of this Body that the proposed transfer, so far at least as the Messenger is concerned, be as soon as practicable completed, in such form as may admit a conjunction of the editorship of this paper with one or more of the college professorships, for the purpose of assisting in their proper support, and particularly to meet the wants of the professorship of Mathematics.

"*Resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions be respectfully placed in the hands of Prof. Baird, by the Secretary, that he may be duly informed of this contemplated change and its reasons." [13]

The plan for combining the editorship of the *Messenger* and the professorship of mathematics was not carried out. It was deemed more advisable to obtain the services of the pastor of the Reformed Church of Mercersburg, the Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel, who became both pastor and professor, went with the institution to Lancaster, and taught there until 1877. He became beyond a doubt the best interpreter of the life and glory of old Marshall College. Among his writings are *Recollections of College Life at Marshall College from 1839 to 1845, The Beginnings of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church from 1817 to 1832,* and *The Life and Work of John Williamson Nevin.* He also edited the *Lectures on English Literature* of Professor William Marvel Nevin.

Among the professors in Marshall College of early days was the Rev. Joseph F. Berg, who taught the ancient languages for a year, then became pastor of the Race Street Reformed Church in Philadelphia and later accepted a professorship in the Theological Seminary of the Dutch Reformed Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

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[13] Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

Then came Professor Edward Bourne, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and a deacon in the Church of England, who taught Greek and Latin at Mercersburg for a short time. "He was a thorough scholar, a large-hearted noble Irishman, as gentle as a child and as courageous as a lion. Sometimes he carried his small change in the pocket of his coat-skirt, where, whenever he moved, it jingled, to the merriment of mischievous boys."[14]

Then there was Professor Albert Smith of Williamstown, Mass. He was said to have been a graduate of the University of Cambridge. The inaugural address he delivered at Marshall College on the occasion of the Commencement of 1838 certainly shows him to have been a cultured scholar of rare ability.

And there was also the Rev. Gardiner Jones, a fine Latin scholar but an erratic soul whose life was frequently made miserable by the college boys.

Among the tutors in the college, whose business it was to preserve order, to preside at the tables in the refectory, to see that the young men were in their rooms at nine o'clock at night, and to ring the rising bell at six in the morning, all this in addition to teaching freshmen and sophomores in Horace or Homer, Cicero or Demosthenes—among the men who were burdened with these tasks were Andrew S. Young (1839–1841), Christian R. Kessler (1842–1843), John Cessna (1843–1844), George D. Wolff (1844–1846), Maximilian Stern (1844–1845), George B. Russell (1851–1853), H. C. Bernstein (1841–1842), E. W. Reinecke (1846–1848), David A. Wilson (1847–1849), Franklin D. Stem (1847–1849), John S. Ermentrout (1847–1851), C. B. Wolff (1849–1850), C. Z. Weiser (1851–1852), and David T. Stoddard, a graduate of Yale who afterwards became a foreign missionary in Persia.

In the academic circles of Mercersburg were included not only the professors of the Theological Seminary and of Marshall College, but also the rectors of the Preparatory School and their assistants. These young teachers and administrators were usually students in the Theological Seminary. That accounts for the frequency of the changes made in the teaching force of the Preparatory department. The list of rectors and their assistants is as follows: rectors of the Preparatory department, the Rev. William A. Good (1837–1841), the Rev. Andrew S. Young (1841–1843), the Rev. J. H. Good (1843–1846), A. J. M. Hudson (1846–1850), Joseph S. Loose (1850–1851), David Snively (1851–1852); C. Z. Weiser and S. G. Wagner were co-rectors after 1852. The assistants were J. H. A. Bomberger (1837–1838), Moses Kieffer (1838–1839), George H. Martin (1839–1841), E. V. Gerhart (1839–1842), Jeremiah H. Good (1842–1843), D. Y. Heisler (1842–1843), J. M. Stearns (1843–1844), George Lewis Staley (1842–1844), George W. Aughinbaugh (1844–1845), Aaron S. Leinbach (1847–1848), J. Bossard (1847–1848).

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[14] Appel. *Recollections of College Life,* p. 177.

The following letters written by some of these teachers in the Preparatory School throw an interesting light on certain phases of their life and work:

(1)

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

Lancaster, Pa., May 28th, 1887

TO AMBROSE M. SCHMIDT.

My Dear Sir:

The information you desire respecting my relation as a teacher to Marshall College I can communicate in a few words.

When I graduated from Marshall College in 1838 I accepted the position of teacher in a Female Seminary in Mercersburg under the principalship of Mrs. Sarah A. Young, the widow of the Rev. Daniel Young, the first professor of Biblical Literature in the Seminary.

In the fall of 1839 the Trustees of Marshall College elected me Assistant Rector of the Preparatory Department.

From this time onward for three years I taught in the two schools, and at the same time pursued my studies in the Theological Seminary. During the year 1838–39 the Preparatory held its sessions in a frame building on the north side of the main street of the village a few doors west of Centre Square. I met my classes in a rear room on the second story.

When the brick building was erected on the College grounds located at the eastern extremity of the village the School was removed, and afterwards I met my classes at that place.

I do not remember any incidents of special significance. I may however add that as I was only twenty-two years of age when I became Assistant Rector I had during those three years not a few students who were a good deal older than myself. A number became ministers of the Gospel, served the Master faithfully, and have finished their work in the Church militant.

Licensed to preach the Gospel by the Synod of Reading, 1841, I was required during my last year to take my turn in preaching before the students on Sunday morning. These services were held in the old Stone Church, owned jointly by the Reformed and Lutherans, and situated on a back street at the western end of Mercersburg.

Early in the summer of 1842 I received and accepted a call from a pastoral charge in Franklin Co. consisting of four Churches, then known as the Grindstone Hill Charge; and I was ordained in August, 1842 in the principal congregation, called the Grindstone Hill Church. During that summer I fulfilled my engagements in the Schools of Mercersburg during the week, and served these churches on Sunday.

At the close of the College year, September, 1842, I resigned my office, and withdrew to my pastoral field.

Yours Very Truly,
EML. V. GERHART

(2)

Tiffin, Ohio May 24th 1886

MR. A. M. SCHMIDT, *Dear Sir:*

In reply to your note I would say, that I graduated in Marshall College in Sept. 1842, and was appointed as Assistant Rector of the Prep. Dept. This was carried forward in a newly-erected building, at the South end of Mercersburg, which served both as a Boarding Hall and School Room. Mrs. Findlay, a lively widow of mature age, was our matron. One of our teachers was Alonzo James Madison Hudson, brother of the celebrated Shakespearean scholar, originally from Vermont, a very original thinker, writer, poet and philosopher, who afterwards entered the Ministry of the Episcopal Church. I last heard from him years ago when he was living in Colorado.

Very truly yours,
J. H. GOOD

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(3)

Mercersburg, Pa.,
June 8, 1887.

MR. A. M. SCHMIDT,
Dear Sir:

To your favor of the primo, I reply hastily as follows:

I entered Marshall College in the spring of 1841, and graduated in the Fall of 1844. Thos. B. Kennedy, Esq., Pres. of the C. V. R. R. Co., was salutatorian, and I was Valedictorian. The Commencement was held in Chambersburg.

A few days after Commencement Dr. Nevin notified me of my appointment to a position in the Preparatory Department. This position I accepted, and entered upon its duties at the opening of the Fall Term of 1844. This position I held for two years, teaching four hours a day, and at the same time pursuing my Theological studies. After consultation with Dr. Nevin, I severed my connection with the Preparatory

Department in the Fall of 1846 and accepted a unanimous call to the vacant pastorate of the Emmittsburg Charge.

When I resigned, if my memory is not at fault, there were eighty or more names on the Preparatory roll. The College was equally prosperous, numbering about one hundred students.

If the above will answer your purpose you are at liberty to use it, though written in midst of constant interruption.

Yours
GEORGE W. AUGHINBAUGH

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(4)

Allentown, Pa. May 24, 1886.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 11th inst. is at hand. The request you make in it is a reasonable one, and shall, with pleasure, be granted.

You are not strictly correct in the statement that I served as Rector of the Preparatory Department during the years 1852–1853. The Institution in Mercersburg, Pa. when the Rev. Dr. C. Z. Weiser and myself took charge of it, in the Fall of A.D. 1852 was known as "Marshall Collegiate Institute." The property was still vested in the College Board, and was leased by us, for proper consideration. The Institution was in a certain sense a private enterprise, although the curriculum laid down was such as to prepare young men for the College which about that time was removed to Lancaster, Pa.

My connection with it for a number of years was one of the green spots in my life. The memory of it is as a pleasant dream. Our success was gratifying. The "boys" who then sat at our feet,—though we were not much more than boys ourselves—are many of them filling positions of influence and usefulness, today.

Friend "Clem" and myself have since then experienced many changes, but we have never come to regret our pleasant and profitable association as stripling Professors of "Marshall Collegiate Institute," in the memorable years of 1852–1853.

Sincerely yours,

S. G. WAGNER[15]

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[15] Manuscripts in the "Memorial Portfolio of Marshall and Franklin and Marshall Colleges," in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

CHAPTER XVI

The Union of Franklin College With Marshall College

WE have seen in earlier chapters that Franklin College, founded in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1787 by Benjamin Franklin and some of his fellow signers of the Declaration of Independence and fellow framers of the Constitution of the United States, together with a number of clergymen, mostly of the Reformed and Lutheran denominations, made several efforts over a period of at least twenty years to secure a union of the institutions at York and later at Mercersburg with the College at Lancaster.

The Act of Incorporation for the united college was approved by Governor William F. Johnston on April 19, 1850. But complications arose because the literary societies of Marshall College had no proper and competent authorities capable in law to make conveyance of their properties. Hence a supplementary Act was passed by the state legislature and signed by Governor William Bigler on February 12, 1853, correcting the matter and furthermore giving Marshall College the privilege of continuing in operation until the annual commencement of 1853. The union of the two institutions was finally effected in the year 1853.

The following documents tell the story of the whole involved process, covering a period of several years, which ultimately brought about the union of Franklin with Marshall College; a union which was difficult of accomplishment but which has proved happily successful to this day.

The story begins with the following proposition from Franklin College, which was sent to Dr. J. W. Nevin:

Lancaster Dec. 6th 1849.

THE REVD JNO. NEVIN, D.D.
Prest. &c.

Rev. & dear Sir:

We beg through you, to lay before the Trustees of Marshall College, the Proceedings of the Trustees of Franklin College, at their recent annual meeting in this city. At that meeting a Project was bro't forward, for the Union of the two Institutions, and for the transfer of Marshall College to this city, or its immediate vicinity. We are commissioned to inform you what was done in the Premises, and to invite the coöperation of your Board, in the important enterprize. Let us hope, that the Project so auspiciously begun, may, by the divine blessing, be bro't to a happy issue.

As by the Charter of Franklin College, a decided Preponderance is given to the Lutheran and Ger. Ref. bodies, it was deemed proper that the terms of Union, should be such as would be materially acceptable to those Parties. The whole matter therefore, was referred for consideration, to a Committee, consisting of Three Members of each of those denominations; viz:

Messrs. Muhlenberg, J. F. Long, & Hager on the part of the Lutherans; and Messrs. Bucher, Mesick, and Heitshu, on the Part of the German Reformed. These Gentlemen, after mature and protracted discussion, unanimously reported a plan of Union, which, after sundry amendments in the Board, was unanimously adopted in the following form, viz:

Plan of Union between Franklin & Marshall College.

1. The two Boards of Trustees shall apply to the next Legislature, for an alteration in their respective Charters, so that the new Corporation may be called "Franklin Marshall College"; said college to be established in the city of Lancaster, or its immediate vicinity.

2. Provision shall be made in the new Charter, that one third of the Board of Trustees shall forever be Lutherans, and two thirds German Reformed; or such other persons as

the said Lutherans and Germ. Reformed of the Board, respectively, see fit to elect.

3. Two Professors of the Faculty shall be nominated by the Lutherans and elected by the Board of Trustees, whose salaries shall be equal in Amount, with those of the other Professors.

4. That final action be delayed upon the Premises for a period not exceeding sixty days, affording the Committee appointed and individual members an opportunity of conferring with the several Faculties, and with the absent Trustees.[1]

Dec. 5th, 1849 F. A. MUHLENBERG, *Chairman*

As a result of this invitation and plan, Dr. Nevin called a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, to be held at Chambersburg. This meeting was so important that we publish the minutes in detail. It decided, in fact, the fate of Marshall College. It will be noted that the delegation on the board from Mercersburg insistently voted against the removal of the institution. It will also be seen that the citizens of Mercersburg in town meeting assembled had presented a protest to the board, and that the students had at the same time petitioned for removal. The minutes follow:

The Board met agreeable to previous notice in Chambersburg on December 26th, 1849, at 7 o'clock P.M.

Opened with prayer by Rev. J. W. Nevin, President. Members of the Board present—J. W. Nevin, D.D., Pres., Jas. O. Carson, Thos. Creigh, Hon. J. C. Bucher, Dr. J. W. Gloninger, Wm. Heyser, Rev. T. L. Hoffeditz, C. F. Hofmeier, A. Hoke, H. D. Krause, Wm. Metcalf, Wm. McKinstry, Martin Newcomer, Rev. J. Rebaugh, Mart Rickenbaugh, Henry Ruby, Hon. P. Shell, F. Smith, John Smith, Jas. B. Orr, Barnard Wolff, David Zeller, Rudolph F. Kelker, Peter Cook, Jonathan Zeller, D. H. Schnebly—on motion it was

Resolved that the Members of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary be invited to sit with this Board, together with the ministers of the G. Reformed Church as advisory Members.

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[1] Quoted in the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, in Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

On motion resolved, that the Rev. J. C. Bucher and J. F. Mesick members of the Board of Trustees of Franklin College be recd. as advisory Members of this Board.

The Chairman of the Financial Committee of Marshall College laid before the Board a statement of its financial concerns. The report was read.

The report referred to read as follows:

Statement of the funds and property
of Marshall College

Notes for Scholarships, and part of Scholarship bearing interest		$ 9508.97
Notes due College, arising out of subscrip.		979.82
Amount of invested funds including debt due by Seminary		9289.98
Amt of Scholarships not in bonds but Int. paid		1500.00
Cash in hands of Treasurer		300.00
Amt of Subscriptions put in suit supposed secure		2089.98
Amt due by students for tuition		509.30
Philosophical Apparatus New Cost		1100.00
Bonus from printing establishment of $300 Annually for five years after which expected to increase, equal to—		5000.00
		$30,278.05
Due upon Scholarships uncollected	9520.66	
Estimated balance of Subscriptions	7000.00	16,520.66
Estimated Real property		$46,798.71
Society Halls	$11,000.00	
Preparatory building and Outhouse	6,000.00	
Professors house and appendages	5,000.00	
24 Acres of land	3,000.00	28,000.00
Libraries and Cabinets	3,000.00	
The College is Chargeable		$74,798.71
With about fifty Scholarships		

D 28th, 1849 Wm. Heyser, Chair. F. Comm.[2]

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[2] Marshall College MSS. at Franklin and Marshall College.

A proposition from Franklin College at Lancaster presenting a plan of Union between that institution and Marshall College at Mercersburg was laid before the Board.

A communication from the students at Marshall College was presented, praying the removal of the institution from Mercersburg was read.

On motion it was Resolved that the proposition of Franklin College made to this Board be favourably regarded.

On motion a Committee was appointed to take into consideration the proposition for Lancaster and report. Hon. D. Krause, W. Heyser, J. C. Bucher, P. Cook, F. Hoffeditz, and W. Metcalf were appointed as that Committee.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at ten o'clock A.M.

Thursday Morning D 27th the Board met, opening with prayer by Rev. I. F. Mesick.

The Committee to whom was referred the proposition from Lancaster reported the following Resolution—

Resolved that Marshall College is not so bound by any engagement springing out of its location at Mercersburg, as prevents the Trustees from freely considering the expediency of its removal.

On the passage of this Resolution the Yeas and Nays were called—J. W. Nevin, J. C. Bucher, J. W. Gloninger, Wm. Heyser, T. L. Hoffeditz, C. F. Hofmeier, D. Krause, M. Rickenbaugh, H. Ruby, P. Shell, D. H. Schnebly, John Smith, Jas. B. Orr, B. Wolff, R. Kelker, I. Zeller 16 Yeas. Jas. O. Carson, Thomas Creigh, A. Hoke, W. Metcalf, W. McKinstry, M. Newcomer, I. Rebaugh, F. Smith, D. Zeller, P. Cook 10 Nays.

A document in the shape of a Protest from the Citizens of Mercersburg was presented and asked to be read by J. O. Carson.

The Board adjourned until 2 o'clock P.M.

The Board met agreeable to adjournment, a quorum being present the business of the Board was resumed.

At this point it was

Moved by the Hon. David Krause:

Resolved, That this Board agree to the plan of Union proposed between Franklin and Marshall Colleges, viz:—

1. The two Boards of Trustees shall apply to the next Legislature for an alteration in their respective charters, so that the new Corporation shall be called Franklin Marshall College. Said College to be established in the City of Lancaster, or its immediate vicinity.

2. Provision shall be made in the new charter, that one third of the Board of Trustees shall forever be Lutheran and two thirds German Reformed or such other persons as the said Lutheran and German Reformed members of the Board respectively shall see fit to elect.

3. Two professors of the Faculty shall be nominated by the Lutherans and elected by the Board of Trustees whose salaries shall be equal in amount with those of the other professors.

Which propositions, the Board then took up separately by items, and amended as follows:

No. 1. Amended by inserting the word "*and*" between the words "Franklin Marshall," so as to read "*Franklin and Marshall College*"

No. 2. Amended by striking out all after the word *charter* and inserting "that two thirds of the Board of Trustees shall forever be German Reformed; one sixth of the said Board Lutheran, and the remaining one sixth of said Board shall be chosen from any other society of Christians. Before the consideration of the third proposition, the Board adjourned to meet at 6½ o'clock this evening.

Board met pursuant to adjournment

The 3rd proposition submitted this afternoon was stricken out and the following substituted, viz:—

3rd That one of the professors shall be of the Lutheran Church whose salary shall rate with that of the other professors generally, and a second professor may be chosen from the Lutheran Church provided that a fund for his support be created by said Church.

The following item No. 4 was added to wit,

4. Resolved by this Board that the people of the City and County of Lancaster be required to raise an amount not less than Twenty five thousand dollars to purchase the ground and defray the expenses of the erecting the buildings for the college and professors houses, without touching the present funds of either Franklin or Marshall College.

The proceeds of the sale of Marshall College to be placed in the general fund for the endowment of the several professorships in " Franklin & Marshall College." [3]

A motion was made to adopt the foregoing items upon which the Yeas and Nays were required. J. W. Nevin, J. C. Bucher, J. W. Gloninger, W. Heyser, T. L. Hoffeditz, C. F. Hofmeier, D. Krause, I. Rebaugh, M. Rickenbaugh, H. Ruby, P. Shell, John Smith, Jas. B. Orr, B. Wolff, R. Kelker, E. Heiner 16 Yeas. J. O. Carson, Thos. Creigh, A. Hoke, W. Metcalf, W. McKinstry, M. Newcomer, D. Zeller, P. Cook. 8 Nays. D. H. Schnebly not voting.

On motion it was Resolved that a Committee of Seven be appointed to inform the Board of Trustees of Franklin College of the determination of this Board or a Committee appointed by it the terms of Union here proposed, and to do such other acts or things as may be required to carry forward and accomplish the objects here in view. The following gentlemen were appointed on Said Committee—Hon. D. Krause, J. W. Gloninger, J. C. Bucher, W. Heyser, R. F. Kelker, J. Smith, E. Heiner.

Board adjourned to meet tomorrow at 9 o'clock A.M.

Friday Dec 28, 1849

Board met, and after the preliminary matters attended to, the President announced the following gentlemen to compose the committee under the resolution of 27th inst. Hon. David

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[3] *Ibid.*

Krause, Chairman, John C. Bucher, Elias Heiner, William Heyser, Rudolph F. Kelker, John Smith and John W. Glonginger, M.D.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted, viz. Resolved, That the full consummation of the proposed union of Colleges be delayed until opportunity shall be had to consult the Synod of the German Reformed Church.
Resolved, That it be recommended by this Board that a special meeting of the Synod aforesaid be called at as early a day as possible to give their sanction to the act of this Board of Trustees in the removal of Marshall College from Mercersburg.

Certified by me as a true copy from the minutes.
Chambersburg December 28th, 1849

JONATHAN ZELLER
—*Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College* [4]

After the meeting of the board, the Chairman of the Removal Committee of Marshall College wrote the following letter to the Rev. Dr. Samuel Bowman, Rector of Saint James Episcopal Church in Lancaster:

Chambersburg, 28 Dec. 1849

Dear Sir:

The Board of Marshall College have here closed their labors in reference to the proposed union with Franklin. The Committee appointed to superintend further proceedings have enclosed extracts from the minutes, by which you will perceive that the terms of the two institutions are not far apart, and that the hope may be cherished on all sides that a final agreement may be attained at an early day. It is now late in the evening and have time only to add the request that the extracts be presented at the proper place for speedy action.

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[4] *Ibid.*

Yours very truly

D. KRAUSE

Chairman[5]

Rev. S. Bowman, D.D.
Lancaster
Pa.

The President of Synod issued the following call for a special meeting. The call was issued within ten days of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College:

SPECIAL MEETING OF SYNOD

In compliance with a constitutional request placed in my hands, a special meeting of the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, will take place at Harrisburg, Pa., on Wednesday the 30th inst. at 7 o'clock P.M. for the following purposes:

1st. To obtain of Synod a ratification or approval of the late acts and proceedings of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, touching a removal of said College from Mercersburg to Lancaster, Pa., and a union of it, on certain conditions, with Franklin College, located in the last mentioned city.

2nd. To consider the practicability and expediency of removing the Theological Seminary of the German Reformed Church from Mercersburg to Lancaster City.

3rd. To take into consideration the general subject of the removal of our College and Seminary from Mercersburg to some other place, and to adopt such measures as may seem best calculated to advance and secure the interests of said Institutions, and of the German Reformed Church generally.

JOHN REBAUGH, *President.*[6]

Greencastle, Pa., Jan. 7, 1850.

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[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Reformed Church Messenger,* January 9, 1850.

Meanwhile one of the difficult questions to solve was whether the newly established college should be controlled by one or by two religious denominations. The following editorials will explain the situation. The first represents the attitude of the Lutherans toward the question:

"In order to bring Franklin College into successful operation, it should by all means be placed under the exclusive control of some one Christian denomination; this is a settled point. Then, let it be transferred *wholly* to the German Reformed, or to the Lutherans; to which, is to us a matter of no great moment;—*commingling,* under existing circumstances is utterly impracticable!—But let this be done *equitably*. Let one buy out the other at a fair valuation, and then there will be no reasonable ground of complaint. Then, no doubt, a flourishing College will spring up in Lancaster, and be permanently established.—Then, good feeling will be promoted among all the parties interested, and whichever denomination builds up the institution, the receding one can but bid it a hearty God-speed and the divine blessing may be expected to rest upon it. But carry out the plan now in agitation, and deep muttering and maledictions will follow those of either party who, having had it in their power, did not prevent the consummation of a scheme so manifestly unjust, while those same maledictions will rest upon and blight the fair prospects of the institution to the latest generation."[7]

The second editorial expresses the viewpoint of the German Reformed Church:

"In the first place, Franklin College has dragged out a feeble existence ever since it was first organized, and is at this time at best nothing more than a good academy or classical school. On the other hand, Marshall College has had a well and fully organized Faculty ever since it was established, and has maintained throughout a prosperous existence even up to the present time. Its present position, in most respects, will contrast very favorably with that of the various other literary institutions of the land. As then the Lutherans have only an interest of one third in Franklin College, the other two-thirds belonging the one to the German Reformed Church and the other to various other denominations, and Marshall College belongs exclusively to the German Reformed Church, it is plain, that in uniting these two institutions together, the interest of the German Reformed Church in the united institution would in the view just presented bear a proportion to that of the Lutheran church, of nine to one, instead of simply two to one, as the plan of union first proposed by the Trustees of Franklin College simply make it.

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[7] Quoted *ibid.*, January 23, 1850, from the *Lutheran Observer*.

" Again, the funds and property of Franklin College are estimated at $43,960. The interest of the Lutheran Church in this is one third, which would be equal to $14,653. The funds and property belonging to Marshall College are estimated at about $60,000. The funds and property of the two institutions united, would then amount to $103,960. The interest of the Lutheran Church in this united sum, as we have seen is $14,653, which bears a proportion to the whole amount of a little more than one seventh. . . .

" As intimated above, if the union of Franklin and Marshall Colleges is to be consummated, we would greatly prefer, that the Lutheran Church would withdraw its interest from the united institution entirely, and leave it wholly in the hands of the German Reformed Church. If, however, the Lutherans prefer to retain their interest in the united institution, and an amicable and equitable arrangement embracing this plan be effected, which doubtless can, in that case, be done, we have no insuperable objection to it; and would indulge the hope in that event, that the different interests represented in the institution will cooperate cordially together; and prove instrumental in bringing the two leading branches of the German Church in this country, into that close and harmonious relation, which it is so desirable for their mutual interests that they should sustain to each other." [8]

As soon as the question of the possible removal of Marshall College was raised, several other communities, besides Lancaster, became interested. It will be seen from the following that Frederick, Maryland, was an aggressive contender for the institution:

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[8] *Ibid.*, January 23, 1850.

MOVEMENT IN FREDERICK CITY, MD.

From a communication and an editorial contained in the Frederick *Examiner* of the 16th inst., it appears that an interest has been awakened among some of the citizens of that place in reference to the contemplated removal of Marshall College, and that an effort will probably be made to secure its location in that city. In many respects, Frederick would be a very suitable place for locating our institutions, surrounded as it is by a beautiful and fertile country, easy of access, and containing a large and intelligent population, who are fully capable of appreciating the value and importance of the presence of such institutions; and if a removal is to take place, and a fair competition for the new location is to be allowed, it is to be hoped that the citizens of Frederick may be enabled to put in such proposals as shall be worthy of their intelligence and ability, and as shall challenge the serious consideration of those to whom the disposal of this question shall be committed. In some other places, if we are not misinformed, a similar movement is also going forward, so that Lancaster will not be without some formidable competitors in its efforts to secure the location of Marshall College and our Theological Seminary in its midst.

That our readers may judge for themselves of the nature of this movement, we give, by request, the following extract from the editorial, followed by another from the communication to which we have referred:

MARSHALL COLLEGE.

" We understand that for some time past, the Trustees of this popular institution, together with its faculty and students have been persuaded of the unsuitableness of its present location. Of late however *this* feeling has manifested itself more plainly, in the action of the Trustees of the latter institution with reference to its removal. We see by the Sun of January 10th, that a correspondent from Chambersburg, states they have accepted this offer, with the proviso that Lancaster city and county shall raise some $25,000 to put up the College buildings. This however we think is a premature statement, as in a call for a special meeting of the Synod of the Reformed Church—under whose care this institution is conducted,—it is stated that at the proposed meeting, *the propriety of removing the institution to some place* will be presented to that ecclesiastical body.

"We have introduced this matter in order to call the attention of the citizens of Frederick to it.—When this institution was first established, about $20,000 was subscribed here in Frederick, for the purpose of having it located here; the proposition then fell through, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring a suitable President. As it is now being re-located, if an effort be made by our citizens, we can throw out inducements enough for the Trustees of Marshall College to select the Mountain City as its new location. With the advantages of a healthy location, direct communication with all parts of the Union, daily mails, freedom from that contamination with vice that always accompanies an institution in a large city, and an intelligent community which is now sending off her sons to a distance to complete that Collegiate course which could under such a change be obtained at home; we feel that we have some claims towards the *possession* of this institution.

"Then let us make an exertion to obtain an institution in our midst, which shall not only add additional credit to our Mountain City by the character of its venerated instructors, the additional means it will afford us of educating our children at our own doors, and the increased valuation of property in our midst. We are but now rising from the lethargy into which we had fallen for some years, and our *resurrection* is marked by the spirit which gave birth to our justly celebrated Female Seminary and its chaste building, to the new German Reformed Church—(than which there is not a finer church edifice in the German Reformed communion)—to the introduction of gas into our city by the enterprise of one of our citizens, to the erection on all sides of beautiful and appropriate private residences, and to that zeal and enthusiasm with which our water works were commenced, continued, and finished. We have an elegant location on Barracks Hill, which is now useless to the State, and which doubtless could be obtained as a grant or for a small amount of money. This would be the most beautiful site for a College Building to be found in the State of Maryland.

"We hope the Synod of the Church will admit of the reception of proposals from *different places* for the relocation of their institutions; and that thus we can have the opportunity of testing the feelings of our good citizens with reference to this matter.

"Lancaster city, by the contribution of twenty thousand dollars, expects to enjoy the benefit of this institution in her own suburbs. Frederick city presents inducements superior in many respects to those of Lancaster. Can the like sum not be raised by her? I flatter myself it can with little difficulty. In a small company, casually assembled a few evenings since, when the subject was broached, the sum of fifteen hundred dollars was cheerfully volunteered. This is, indeed, an encouraging earnest of what can be done. Let subscriptions be taken conditional upon its removal here, and by the 30th prox. when the ecclesiastical body in which is vested the power to take final and decisive action, shall convene, perhaps we may be able to make such an advantageous proposal that we may secure her in our midst. I invoke in behalf of this effort the benevolent enterprize of our citizens. I myself have no private interest to subserve, no individual feeling to gratify, but am stimulated by a sincere regard.

"PRO BONO PUBLICO."[9]

After vigorous opposition within the Board of Franklin College to the plan of union as adopted and modified by the Marshall wing of the church, the union was finally consummated with great unanimity. At least that is what the following letter from Lancaster implies:

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[9] *Ibid.*, January 23, 1850.

Lancaster, Jan'y 19, 1850.

MARSHALL COLLEGE

The Trustees of Franklin College have just closed their sessions. Quite an animated discussion was had, on the subject of the proposed union with " Marshall "—and the proposition as modified by the Board of the latter college. The Rev. Dr. Schmucker, of Gettysburg, led his party in opposition to the whole movement. In the way of complaint, he wished a further postponement, that proffers of the same kind, should be made to " Pennsylvania College," and the Lutheran church at large. This, however, met with little response, even with the Lutheran representation itself; it being manifest, that, whatever Lutheran interest was to be secured, it was to stand in favor to that church as it stood at the time, when Franklin College came into being. During the debate, unofficial propositions were made again and again, to allow the Lutherans to retire with their portion of the funds, which however, were objected to by the Lutheran Trustees, of the old Pennsylvania Synod, particularly those residing in Lancaster, and the third or " all denomination " party, who contended that the whole fund should be used for the great purpose, originally intended, as located at or near the city of Lancaster. It was farther contended that, as there existed a number of Lutheran synods in Pennsylvania, and as the denomination was much diversified, there was difficulty in ascertaining who the recipients, justly and properly should be. The union of the two colleges, was finally consummated with much unanimity, by agreement, with the modification and explanations of the Marshall College Board. Immediate efforts are to be made to procure subscriptions from the good people of Lancaster to the amount of at least twenty-five thousand dollars. It is expected that the amount will be raised in time to be presented, in a tangible way, at the approaching meeting of the Synod at Harrisburg.

Marshall College occupies an enviable position in this city and community, as may be inferred from this whole movement. The Board of Franklin College, as now constituted, for intellectual strength and profound erudition, will not suffer by a comparison with any other college board in the land. That "Marshall" should be sought and favored with such marked partiality by such a distinguished and discerning body of citizens of our State, is a mark of distinction of which she may be justly proud. Her able Faculty with the profoundly learned President at its head, has secured a reputation wide and broad as the vast extent of our country itself. Indeed, in the language of a distinguished divine, officially connected with Franklin College, the fame of the honored President extends not only to the German Reformed Church, nor our country, but to the *world*. Whether the synod and the church will ratify these proceedings, remains yet to be seen. Momentous considerations have yet to be weighed, as momentous consequences must follow a decision whatever it may be. That all may be overruled, so as to conduce to the great object contemplated, in the establishment of these institutions, is the sincere wish of a

GERMAN CITIZEN.[10]

The final outcome was that the Lutheran interest in Franklin College was paid $17,000, which was to be used for the founding of a professorship in Gettysburg:

THE UNION OF FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGES

Immediately after the issue of our previous No., we received the intelligence from Lancaster, that on the evening after the adjournment of the Board of Trustees of Franklin College, the resident members of that Board together with the Lutheran portion, held another meeting (an informal one, of course), when the latter agreed to take their portion of the fund (one third) and yield their interest in the college. The difficulty between themselves, as it would seem, had still been, how their portion of the funds should be disposed of, in case they withdrew. They finally agreed, that it should be appropriated to the founding of a professorship in Gettysburg, subject to the control, however, of the (old) Lutheran synod of Pennsylvania.

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[10] *Ibid.*, January 23, 1850.

A mutual agreement was also made, to unite in petitioning the Legislature for a charter, blending both Colleges into one, and placing it under the exclusive control of the German Reformed Church, in case the Synod approved of such a course—a measure which has called together the Synod at Harrisburg, and which is now in session.[11]

The official action of the Reformed Church in the transfer of Marshall College was taken at Harrisburg on February 1, 1850, as the following resolutions adopted at that time show:

> The Synod of the German Reformed Church commenced its special sessions at Harrisburg, Pa., on the evening of the 30th ultimo, and closed them on the evening of the 1st instant. The number of delegates present from the several Classes was large for a special meeting. Many advisory members from the several Classes were also present, and participated in the discussions.
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> The President stated the object of the meeting to be, as set forth in the circular:
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> 1.) To obtain of Synod a ratification or approval of the late acts and proceedings of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, touching a removal of said College from Mercersburg to Lancaster, Pa., and a union of it, on certain conditions, with Franklin College, located in the last mentioned city.
>
> 2.) To consider the practicability and expediency of removing the Theological Seminary of the German Reformed Church from Mercersburg to Lancaster city.
>
> 3.) To take into consideration the general subject of the removal of our College and Seminary from Mercersburg to some other place, and to adopt such measures as may seem best calculated to advance and secure the interests of said institutions, and of the German Reformed Church generally.
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> The general subject of the Removal of our institutions was taken up and discussed at length, in connection with which

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[11] *Ibid.*, January 30, 1850.

the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College on the propositions from the Trustees of Franklin College, for the union of the two institutions, were read, together with the report of the committee of conference with the Trustees of Franklin College appointed by the Trustees of Marshall College. In the same connection also, an extract from the proceedings of the consistory of the German Reformed Church at Frederick, Md., in which they request Synod to refer the subject of the removal of our institutions, in view of its great importance, to the several Classes for their consideration and action, at their next annual meetings, was presented. The general subject was eventually disposed of, by committing it to a committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. P. Schaff, B. S. Schneck, Dr. B. C. Wolff, and elders J. C. Bucher and J. Meyers, with instructions to bring before Synod, in consecutive order, the several propositions it involves. This committee reported, whereupon the following action was had:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Synod, there is no legal or moral difficulty in the way of the removal of Marshall College from Mercersburg to some other place. [This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of *yeas.*]

WHEREAS, The Synod of the German Reformed Church did, at its annual session at Chambersburg, Pa., in 1835, locate its Theological Seminary and High School in the town of Mercersburg, Pa., in consideration of certain propositions laid before it at the time, signed by several individuals in behalf of the citizens of Mercersburg, and whereas said stipulations and agreements have not been fully complied with, therefore

Resolved, That this Synod does not consider itself legally or morally bound to continue its institutions at Mercersburg longer than the interests of the Church requires it. [This preamble and resolution were adopted by a unanimous vote.]

Resolved, That the course pursued by the Trustees of Marshall College and its committee, touching a consideration of certain proposals from Marshall College, with regard to a union of the two institutions, be approved.

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of Marshall College be requested to take, through its committee, the necessary steps to complete the plan of union, and to make the division of the funds of Franklin College, as proposed by the Lutheran and other Trustees of said College. [This resolution was adopted by the following vote of Yeas and Nays. *Yeas* 30, *Nay* 1, *Non-liquets,* 2.]

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, touching the requirements of $25,000, from the people of the city and county of Lancaster, be approved.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with the committee of the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, upon the subject of a union of Franklin and Marshall Colleges, and that they be authorized, in conjunction with said committee, to take the steps necessary to carry out and complete any plan which may ultimately be agreed upon by the Boards of the respective Colleges for the accomplishment of said Union. This committee consists of the Rev. Dr. B. C. Wolff, J. R. Kooken, J. H. A. Bomberger, and elders J. Klopp and D. W. Gross. . . .[12]

Then came the union of the two committees representing both institutions, the application for an act of incorporation, the report that the Charter had been granted, and the steps for raising funds to make the merger effective.

UNION OF FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE

The Chairman of the Committee appointed by the special meeting of Synod at Harrisburg, Pa., to confer and cooperate with a similar committee appointed by the Board of Trustees of Marshall College, on the subject of a union of Franklin and Marshall Colleges, reported, that in furtherance of the object contemplated, an act of incorporation for the united Institutions to be located in Lancaster, Pa., under the style and title of "Franklin Marshall College," with such provisions and stipulations as were generally satisfactory to the minds of the Committees, was obtained from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, at the close of its late sessions in Harrisburg.

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[12] *Ibid.,* February 6, 1850.

This act of incorporation, amongst other stipulations preliminary and conditional to a union of the two Institutions, requires that the sum of $25,000 be raised by the citizens of Lancaster city and county, as a contribution to the new Board of Trustees for the erection of College buildings, and that $15,000 be raised by the German Reformed Church for the extinguishment of the interest of the sister Church in Franklin College.

In order to the accomplishment of this object, the committees immediately took steps to procure the services of an Agent to raise the money required of the German Reformed Church, and were so far successful as to place the Rev. J. C. Bucher in the field. His reports to the committees warrant them in saying that there will be no difficulty in meeting the engagements of the German Reformed Church. Our people in the portions of the Church which he visited exhibited every disposition to sustain and carry forward the new enterprize. The $15,000, he was persuaded would be forthcoming, whenever it was wanted to ensure the success of the object contemplated.

Unexpected difficulties occurred, however, in raising the $25,000 required of the people of Lancaster, and Mr. Bucher was induced to direct his attention to the fulfillment of this part of the scheme. He was of course obliged to suspend his labors for the Church. In the prosecution of this object he was not as successful as had been anticipated. Owing to commercial embarrassments, and the prosecution of various enterprizes, connected with the social and religious improvement of the community, requiring the expenditure of large amounts of money, the difficulties in his way were not to be surmounted at once. In view of this circumstance, and other causes of a private nature, not necessary to be stated, he was led to retire from the further prosecution of the work.[13]

The raising of $25,000 in Lancaster in 1850 required great labor and perseverance. The work of the Rev. J. Casper

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[13] *Ibid.*, October 30, 1850.

Bucher finally brought results. That his work was not easy is seen from the following communications:

(1)

. . . In regard to the reasons why the transfer of Marshall College to Lancaster and its consolidation with the Franklin College is not yet effected, our brother is not quite as well informed as are the "Eastern Friends." The difficulty thus far has not been the Fifteen Thousand Dollars that are to be raised by the Church, but the raising of the Twenty-five Thousand Dollars on the part of the citizens of Lancaster. The church has been waiting, all along, to see whether the latter would come up to their promise; and so soon as they do, then is the time for the church to move in the matter, and not before.[14]

(2)

The Lancaster papers—at least some of them—are quite in earnest about the matter of the consolidation of Marshall and Franklin Colleges. It was supposed by many persons, that the whole movement had *died out*. But not so. "*Aufgeschoben, ist nicht aufgehoben*." It was simply taking a little rest, and is now rousing itself like "a strong man armed for battle." They have an Agent in the field, and the resuscitation of their Cotton Factories have, it would seem, resuscitated the dormant energies of the Lancasterians also. We should be glad to hear from some correspondent the exact position and prospect of affairs as they now stand. The Church is interested in the movement, and would like to know all about it.[15]

(3)

A writer in the Lancaster *Examiner and Herald*, who signs himself "Mechanic," is endeavoring to stir up the people of that county to give liberally towards the project of raising the $25,000 preparatory to the removal of Marshall College, and among other things employs the following language by way of winding up his article:

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[14] *Ibid.*, July 9, 1851.

[15] *Ibid.*, January 1, 1851.

"I hope the worthy and wealthy farmers of our rich county will take this subject properly to heart, and consider the benefits and progress of their children in connection with such an Institution, and how much more valuable it is to improve the intellect of their sons and daughters, than it is to raise a fine fat breed of Conestoga horses—so much the pride of Lancaster county—when they have amply the means to accomplish both."[16]

(4)

The Lancaster Union and Tribune of last week says:

"We learn with pleasure that the amount necessary to secure the Union of FRANKLIN and MARSHALL Colleges, and the consequent removal of Marshall College from Mercersburg to this city, has been subscribed. The Committee have authorized their very efficient Agent, Rev. J. C. Bucher, to proceed at once to make collections."[17]

The story of the closing of old Marshall College in the spring of 1853 is told in the following:

MARSHALL COLLEGE

The winter session of this institution closed last week. It is the last that will be held at Mercersburg. The next session will open at Lancaster in May next, under the new arrangement. Already have the Societies removed their Libraries and Cabinets of minerals. The several professors with their families will soon follow. We could not but feel sad, whilst attending upon the closing exercises, in view of this final breaking up of affairs at Mercersburg. It is true, the Theological Seminary, and the Preparatory Department of the College remain, but the College proper has gone. Dr. Nevin made a very feeling and appropriate address on the occasion. He alluded to the particular circumstances which rendered the removal necessary, and showed very plainly that it resulted from the impossibility of the German Reformed Church to carry forward successfuly at that place, a college on a scale commensurate with the wants of the Church; and not simply from the locality itself or from any want of interest in the enterprize on the part of the citizens. He spoke very kindly and feelingly of the treatment which had been received by the students and professors at the hands of the citizens, for which he tendered them their grateful acknowledgments. The force of his remarks, we are satisfied, was deeply felt by all who were capable of giving the subject anything like an unbiassed consideration.[18]

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[16] *Ibid.,* January 21, 1851.

[17] *Ibid.,* October 8, 1851.

Marshall College had moved to Lancaster, but the traditions and associations were still in Mercersburg. When the students and professors came to Lancaster they found no adequate accommodations there. There were no literary society halls, no Old Main. These were still to be built. For several years the college was located in the building of Franklin College, situated on Lime Street near Orange. Here the professors met their classes until the college edifice was ready for use in 1856.

There is a touch of homesickness for Mercersburg and old Marshall College in the following addresses delivered at the alumni banquet of the newly established Franklin and Marshall College at its commencement in 1855. Dr. Bomberger, the first speaker, had been the first graduate of Marshall College; Dr. Nevin had been its president; Dr. Schaff was expected to remain at Mercersburg with the Theological Seminary even though the college had gone; and Dr. E. V. Gerhart, the favorite pupil of Dr. Rauch, was now president of the newly established Franklin and Marshall College. As one reads their addresses one begins to feel that their hearts were still in Mercersburg, where they had spent the happy days of their student or early professional life. In entering into their new academic relationships, their one thought always seemed to be expressed in the words, "Marshall College—it still lives."

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[18] *Ibid.*, March 23, 1853.

ALUMNI FESTIVAL

In our brief notice of the Commencement exercises of Franklin and Marshall College, published in our last number, we made some reference to the Alumni Festival on Tuesday evening. We find a tolerably full report of the proceedings in the last " Saturday Express " of Lancaster. Pretty fair sketches of the leading addresses are given, which we transfer to our columns, together with the sentiments offered, by which they were severally called forth. They will prove of general interest to our readers.

[The first toast follows:] The first President of Marshall College, the learned, amiable, and venerated Rauch. Although early removed from us, he still lives—in the College which his zeal founded, in the elevated and ennobling system of Philosophy which he eloquently proclaimed, and most vitally in the hearts of many devoted pupils and admiring friends.

Rev. DR. BOMBERGER, of Philadelphia, responded. He paid a glowing, appropriate and merited tribute to the memory of the lamented deceased and the system of philosophy which he founded at Mercersburg. DR. RAUCH taught, and succeeded in establishing, this philosophy—embodying the idea of theology as a living process in the life of the church—in the face of the most determined hostility from the utilitarian spirit then prevailing, and which still exists to a considerable extent in this country as well as in Germany. He could truly say, that Dr. Rauch was the first teacher who had really *taught* him. He had listened to the instruction of others, but he was the first to systematically develop the higher and nobler faculties of the mind, to cultivate and draw out the finer feelings of the heart, and to make all subservient to that faith, which, he held, must precede knowledge in a true philosophy. In that " elevated and ennobling system of philosophy " which Dr. Rauch then so eloquently proclaimed, its venerated founder, though dead, " still lives "—for it is not only cherished, as an embodiment of a system of great truths, by every son of Marshall College, but it has made its indelible mark upon the philosophy and theology of the age. Dr. Rauch " still lives, most vitally in the hearts of many devoted pupils and admiring friends"; for he always regarded and treated his students as his friends, because he loved them as his brothers and was ever beloved by them with the same fidelity in return. The speaker was listened to with deep interest while he gave details of the history of the College under Dr. R's presidency—being frequently interrupted by applause.

[Toast.] The second President of Marshall College, the illustrious successor of Dr. Rauch! His devoted zeal in developing and carrying forward, with rare ability and self-denial, the character and interest of the infant and orphan College, abundantly merits the profound gratitude of every son of our Alma Mater. We welcome him as our most worthy guest to-day.

Rev. Dr. J. W. NEVIN, of Carlisle, responded at some length, in a very able manner, his remarks throughout being marked with that profound thought, comprehensiveness of view, and severe logic, which distinguishes all his efforts. During the evening he appeared to be particularly happy in being surrounded by so many of those who, years ago, had been his pupils; and he commenced his remarks by regretting his inability, from physical causes, to do justice either to them or to his own feelings, in responding to the flattering compliment of the sentiment offered. He referred to the fact, as one in which every friend of the institution could feel an honest pride, that Marshall College had obtained for herself a name of significance and importance in American education, and he recalled numerous interesting incidents and events in the early history of the College, which, from the very beginning of its existence, had been called upon to struggle with embarrassing difficulties and to contend with most bitter opposition. The enterprise was begun without endowment, without which any attempt to establish such an institution must necessarily involve its friends in pecuniary difficulties and subject them to heavy sacrifices. In addition to this, the isolated nature of the location may have been detrimental to its prosperity, together with a strong prejudice then existing against the Germans and, more especially, Dr. Rauch's peculiar system of thought, which called forth the most decided opposition. But with all these to contend with, Marshall College has fulfilled her conscious mission. Working on the outer world from impressions of certain ideas received from within itself, it struggled on in this conscious mission, overcoming prejudice and ignorance by the power of *ideas,* and embodying a moral earnestness in all concerned in its welfare, to which the institution owes much of its vitality. Otherwise, it could not have exerted the influence and accomplished the results which mark its history; for it was this moral earnestness which led to the many sacrifices through which the institution was upheld. But the credit, he said, should not be given to the President, or Faculty, or Trustees, but to the *Students.* To them, after all, was the college then indebted for its power to sustain itself. They nearly all carried forth the fixed impression of the worthiness of the College, and in whatever relation of life they entered they continued to love their Alma Mater and to strive for its welfare. Notwithstanding that no other College had sustained so much opposition and persecution, the results it has accomplished have been truly gratifying.—The amount of education given out, in proportion to its cost, has exceeded that of any other. Its influence upon the German character and the German name has awakened a proper sense, in that important element, of its own dignity, while its results in the German Reformed Church itself have been no less gratifying. Marshall College has conquered and triumphed, and accomplished its mission—but its union with Franklin College has opened a great and more extended work before the new institution, and it becomes every friend of a true Philosophy and an elevated system of Education to continue to work with an earnest purpose in its behalf.

The speaker, in alluding to his own difficulties and embarrassments during his official connection with the College at Mercersburg, said he would have resigned long before he did, but so long as danger was to be apprehended of the College going down in dishonor—while so bitterly assailed by those who had made themselves its enemies—and thus sinking its cherished principles amid the regrets of its friends and the exultations of its foes—he had considered it his imperative duty to stand by it. As soon as it was placed on a firm foundation by the union of the two institutions, he felt that this obligation no longer rested upon him—he had seen the institution, as " Marshall College," accomplishing its mission—and its removal from Mercersburg could not be regarded as a failure of the enterprise which had been so long and so fondly cherished by its founders and friends. Then, let us exert all our energies with renewed vigor in this good work, making no compromise upon the original principles of the College, but stand firmly in the future by the old landmarks. He adverted in encouraging terms, to the many advantages to be gained by the union of Marshall and Franklin College, and the location of the new institution in the wealthy and flourishing county of Lancaster. As to any personal sacrifices he may have made, which had been alluded to this evening, he could say, with emotions of deepest gratitude, that he had been more than repaid in the generous confidence of the friends of the College and, above all, in the love of his pupils. He could truly say, that no student had ever done an act which could be construed into disrespect to himself: and the remembrance of this confidence, esteem and respect on their part he would carry with him to the grave. The speaker, during the delivery of his remarks,—of which we have given a very imperfect outline—was greeted with loud and frequent applause.

[Toast:] " Marshall College—it still lives."

Rev. Dr. PHILIP SCHAFF, of Mercersburg, responded, in an eloquent speech, which abounded with brilliant flashes of thought, and sallies of wit which convulsed his hearers with laughter. This being the first time we had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Schaff, we were very favorably impressed in his favor. We regard him as an extraordinary man. He drew an eloquent and beautiful picture of the associations which cluster around the old College at Mercersburg and bore his testimony to the sterling worth, the masterly ability and self sacrificing spirit of its first and second Presidents. He said that whenever, and in the future, we think of Marshall College, we think of a good and noble work already accomplished. Marshall College not only lives in its glorious results and in the memory of its Alumni—but "*it still lives*" in those delightful walks beneath shady groves—in those noble monuments of literary zeal, the beautiful Halls of its Literary Societies—Halls which he soon hoped to see reared side by side with the new College, in a style still more enduring and imposing. It "still lives" in its *Quarterly Review*—a monument of the enterprise and literary taste of these Alumni—the influence of which has been so extensively felt in forming a sound theological and literary sentiment, and in defending a genuine philosophy. And, finally, Marshall College "still lives" in its *union.* Bachelor like, it grew tired of celibacy and went looking after a partner. His eyes happened to fall upon a fair lady, (Franklin!) of this city, who was blessed with some material endowment. He fell desperately in love, and although very poor himself, he determined to marry her, and she (the little vixen!) consented. They were finally united and received the blessing of both Church and State—now, behold the progeny in the sons of Franklin *and* Marshall College! He entertained high hopes of the mission of this College being realized here on a large scale—of a great practical work being accomplished in a good cause—and that, uniting a profound theory with a severe practice, Franklin and Marshall College would become a first-class institution of the Land of Freedom and of the Future. Dr. Schaff appeared to enter largely into the feelings of his friend Dr. Nevin, in being surrounded with so many familiar faces, recalling old-time associations, and his remarks were received with a corresponding spirit by all present.

[Toast:] The Alumni of Franklin and Marshall College —their mission is to inaugurate a philosophy equally opposed to Utilitarianism and Rationalism. When high culture shall be wedded to true faith, the nuptials of philosophy and Religion will be celebrated with the paeans of redeemed Humanity.

Rev. DR. GERHART, President of the College, responded in some eloquent and well-timed remarks. He felt that he could address the Alumni here present as more than "friends." He would call them *brothers*—for they were born of the same Alma Mater, had sat around the same table and drank from the same fountain of intelligence—they were imbued with the same spirit. He rapidly viewed the history of Marshall College—for, said he, it *has* a history—and drew a striking figure of one band of earnest men ascending a difficult steep, and, after surmounting all obstacles thrown in their way, they were rejoiced to meet there, on the summit, another band of like spirit who had ascended from the other side, with a kindred lofty purpose in view. These he compared to Franklin and Marshall College. They had each fulfilled their mission, and meeting on that level, had united to renew and press on with greater vigor in the glorious cause of a Higher Education. There had been earnest men in this cause—earnest men were in it still. Give him but one hundred earnest men, deeply impressed with a consciousness of their mission, and he would guarantee the success of any laudable enterprise in which they might engage. Franklin and Marshall College will not only *live,* but it has *a right* to become one of the first institutions of learning in the New World, and his whole heart, his best wishes, and his affections are in the cause. He concluded by an incidental allusion to his own position in the College—being here by the force of circumstances and not by his own seeking—and he could not help feeling embarrassed on such an occasion. Yet, while he entered upon his new duties with hesitation, he received so many kindnesses, and had soon so much to hope for, during his short sojourn in Lancaster, that he now felt strong and confident in the final triumph of the cause.[19]

It will be noted that the two men who spoke at this alumni banquet were the first graduates of Marshall College, the Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, who in 1869 founded Ursinus College at Collegeville, Pa., and became its first President, and Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, who was the first President of Franklin and Marshall College of Lancaster, Pa.

The following list of the graduates of Marshall College from 1837 to 1852 shows the position of these men in the first classes receiving degrees from the school:

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[19] *Ibid.,* August 8, 1855.

1837

Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, A.M.

1838

Rev. E. V. Gerhart, A.M.
Rev. Moses Kieffer, A.M.
Rev. George Martin, A.M.
Daniel Miller, A.B.
Rev. G. W. Williard, A.M.
Rev. Andrew S. Young, A.M.

1839

Robert S. Dean, Esq., A.M.
R. Parker Little, A.M., M.D.
Rev. S. S. Middlekauff, A.M.
Rev. William Philips, A.M.
Rev. Samuel H. Reid, A.M.
Rev. George W. Welker, A.M.

1840

Jacob Heyser, Esq., A.M.
Rev. T. C. Hoffeditz, A. M.
D. H. Hofius, Esq., A.M.
W. Mayburry, A.M., M.D.
Rev. George D. Wolff, A.M.

1841

Rev. D. B. Ernst, A.M.
Rev. Henry Funk, A.M.
Oliver C. Hartley, Esq., A.M.
Rev. Jeremiah Ingold, A.M.
James L. Reynolds, Esq., A.M.

1842

Rev. Theodore Apple, A.M.
G. W. Brewer, Esq., A.M.
Rev. Reuben Good, A.M.
Rev. Henry Hoffman, A.M.
Hon. John Cessna, A.M.
Rev. J. H. Good, A.M.
H. A. Mish, Esq., A.M.
Rev. George L. Staley, A.M.
J. H. Vandyke, Esq., A.M.

1843

Rev. Charles Becker, A.M.
J. P. Fleming, Esq., A.M.
William Fiery, A.M.
Rev. John S. Foulk, A.M.
C. D. Gloninger, A.M., M.D.
J. W. Killinger, Esq., A.M.
Rev. F. W. Kremer, A.M.
Rev. C. B. Maclay, A.M.
James Edgar Moore, A.B.
Henry D. Motter, Esq., A.M.
Rev. E. W. Reinecke, A.M.
Rev. Samuel S. Rickli, A.M.
Wm. P. Schell, Esq., A.M.
F. B. Shuford, A.M.
Rev. M. L. Shuford, A.M.
Rev. Enoch W. Skinner, A.M.
B. Franklin Schneck, A.M., M.D.

1844

Rev. H. Heckerman, A.M.
Rev. A. J. M. Hudson, A.M.
Thos. Kennedy, Esq., A.M.
J. S. King, A.M., M.D.
Peter Negly, Esq., A.M.
J. M. Stearns, A.B.
Rev. George W. Aughinbaugh, A.M.
Rev. N. S. Strassburger, A.M.

1845

Rev. J. S. Ermentrout, A.M.
Rev. Samuel H. Giesy, A.M.
Rev. H. Hanson, A.M.
Rev. Jacob Hassler, A.M.
Rev. David A. Wilson, A.M.
L. E. Winter, A.M., M.D.

1846

Rev. F. P. Beidler, A.B.
Andrew Berrier, A.B.
Charles Black, A.B.
Rev. A. S. Leinbach, A.M.
M. V. L. McLelland, A.B.
Rev. John W. McCune, A.B.
Rev. Thornton Butler, A.M.
Rev. D. E. Campbell, A.B.
Walter J. Budd, A.B.
W. F. Detwiler, A.B., M.D.,
D. S. Gloninger, A.M., M.D.,
William Grafius, A.B.
W. McClay Hall, Esq., A.M.
T. B. McFarland, Esq., A.B.
J. H. W. McGinnis, A.M.
Rev. John B. Moyer
Perry A. Rice, Esq., A.M.
Elias Schneider, A.M.
Andrew M. Spangler, A.B.
L. H. Steiner, A.M., M.D.
Joel B. Wanner, Esq., A.B.

1847

E. L. Acker, A.M.
R. S. Brownson, A.B., M.D.
A. V. W. Budd, A.B.
Rev. Joshua H. Derr, A.B.
Rev. Daniel Gans, A.B.
James F. Good, A.B.
B. R. Little, A.B., M.D.
B. F. Miles, A.B.
Rev. Samuel Philips, A.M.
P. M. Sheibly, A.M.
Rev. M. A. Smith, A.M.
E. C. Sohn, A.B.
Rev. George Wolff, A.B.

1848

Rev. Charles H. Albert, A.B.
T. Alexander Boyd, A.B.
J. Coblentz, A.M., M.D.,
Rev. W. M. Deatrick, A.M.
Rev. Thos. Johnston, A.B.
John Blair Linn, Esq., A.B.
Charles A. Mayer, A.B.
Rev. J. O. Miller, A.M.
James H. Reigart, Esq., A.B.
D. E. Reynolds, A.B., M.D.
Rev. Herman Rust, A.B.
Rev. David Snively, A.B.
Rev. John Beck, A.B.
Rev. Joseph Clark, A.M.
Rev. Aaron Christman, A.B.
C. A. Geiger, A.M., M.D.
S. B. Kieffer, A.B., M.D.
Rev. E. M. Long, A.M.
R. L. McCune, A.B.
F. S. Newcomer, A.B., M.D.
John H. Remsburg, A.B.
George W. Ruby, A.M.
Rev. J. W. Santee, A.B.
Rev. C. B. Wolff, A.B.
Rev. W. K. Zieber, A.M.

1849

Rev. D. F. Brendle, A.B.
John W. Brown, Esq., A.B.
Rev. P. S. Davis, A.B.
William E. Davis, A.B.
Tobias Harnish, A.B.
Rev. C. M. Jameson, A.B.
Wm. P. Koutz, Esq., A.B.
J. Laudenschlager, A.B.
Rev. J. S. Loose, A.B.
Wm. H. Miller, Esq., A.B.
Rev. P. C. Prugh, A.B.
Rev. A. Romich, A.B.
George B. Russell, A.B.
Rev. H. W. Super, A.B.
A. K. Leyster, Esq., A.B.
J. H. Thomas, Esq., A.B.
S. Wesley Vandyke, A.B.
Rev. Wm. A. West, A.B.
Edmund R. Zimmerman, Esq., A.B.

1850

Thomas G. Apple, A.B.
Thurston Armstrong, A.B.
C. A. Barnett, A.B.
Henry S. Eckert, A.B.
Saml. B. Edmiston, A.B.
Jacob Good, A.B.
A. H. Halberstadt, A.B.
George D. Hall, A.B.
J. C. F. Klar, A.B.
James S. Lee, A.B.
John H. Shumaker, A.B.
Samuel G. Wagner, A.B.
Clement Z. Weiser, A.B.
William H. Wolff, A.B.

1851

Benjamin Bausman, A.B.
Samuel Gehr, A.B.
Rev. Wm. Goodrich, A.B.
Jonathan E. Heister, A.B.
Daniel J. Neff, A.B.
John F. Spangler

1852

Rev. Joseph Henry Apple, D.D.
Albert Banks
Benjamin Caleb Bishop
E. Tracy Bishop, M.D.
Rev. Lewis Hamilton Kefauver, D.D.
Rev. Isaac K. Loos, D.D.
David McCulloch, Esq.
John Lewis Motter
J. H. Breneman
John Howe Bucher
Robert Elliott Coyle
Simon Calvin Crumbaugh, A.M.
Rev. Abner Dale, A.M.
George Jock Eckert, Esq.
John Oliver Ogle, Esq.
William David Patterson
William Fulwiler Pomeroy
Rev. W. D. C. Rodrock, A.M.
Michael Gordon Ruby, Esq.
Rev. Richard Perry Thomas, A.M.
Rev. George Robert Zacharias[20]

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[20] *Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Marshall College for 1851–52.* Mercersburg, 1852.

Chapter XVII

Old Academies

MARSHALL COLLEGE had gone to Lancaster. But the Theological Seminary remained in Mercersburg until 1871, eighteen years after the College had moved. This means that the Seminary was in Mercersburg just twice as long as Marshall College.

The Preparatory School also remained in Mercersburg under various titles and administrators. There was every reason why these two institutions should remain, because each of them had adequate buildings, the Seminary on the east side of the village, and the Preparatory Department on the south side, occupying what had been supposed to be the college lot.

The Preparatory Department of Marshall College now became known as Marshall Academy, and later assumed the title of Collegiate Institute.

The following suggestion appeared in print at just about the time that Marshall College was leaving Mercersburg:

MARSHALL ACADEMY

The attention of our readers is invited to the advertisement of the above Institution, which is to be found in another part of our present number. It will be perceived that it is to be continued at Mercersburg, and will be under the control of the Board of Trustees of " Franklin and Marshall College " as a Preparatory Department. It will not be removed with the College, and the opening of a similar Department at Lancaster, is not intended in any wise to interfere with its continuance or prosperity. It is to be hoped, that it will receive all the patronage to which it is justly entitled under the management of those to whom its immediate supervision is committed. Indeed, it has occurred to us, that perhaps it would be good policy in the Trustees of "Franklin and Marshall College," to establish or recognize as Preparatory Departments, a number of similar Institutions in various parts of the State. Such an arrangement might be the means of securing a larger return of students than otherwise to the College proper, whilst it would be a means of adding to the character of the Institutions themselves with which it may exist. The suggestion, we think, is at least worthy of proper consideration.[1]

In the first catalogue of Franklin and Marshall College, published by the Senior Class for the term 1852–53, there is included a full statement of the Franklin and Marshall Preparatory Department, with Rev. Joshua H. Derr as Rector; and also a complete record of Marshall Academy, Mercersburg, with the sub-title Preparatory Department of Franklin and Marshall College. The Principals were C. Z. Weiser and Samuel G. Wagner. The enrolled students numbered 51, more than four times the number of the Lancaster Preparatory School. These students were all boys. The Academy was under the control of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College, and its course of instruction was so arranged as to make it a desirable high school for young men and boys who did not desire to pursue their studies through the Collegiate Department. Boarding was furnished at the rate of $1.87½ per week. It was announced that Nevin's *Biblical Antiquities* was studied as a Sunday exercise.

The change from Marshall Academy of Marshall College to Marshall Academy, Mercersburg, came on March 30, 1853. This condition of having two preparatory schools, one in Mercersburg and one in Lancaster, could not last long. It brought a long discussion. The question was raised as to which was the main preparatory school.

Within a year the Marshall Academy was transformed into the Marshall Collegiate Institute, under circumstances that are best explained in this first notice published by the new school. It is apparent that the new school was now a private enterprise.

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[1] *Reformed Church Messenger,* March 23, 1853.

MARSHALL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS, MERCERSBURG, PA.

Instructors—Rev. John R. Kooken, A.M., Samuel G. Wagner, A.M., Isaac P. Koons.

The undersigned having purchased the "Marshall College" property at Mercersburg, intends conducting a HIGH COLLEGIATE SCHOOL upon the premises. The Buildings are in every way adapted to accommodate a School of the first class. Two Students only will occupy a commodious and well furnished room, which they will also use as their place of Study, so long as they prove themselves faithful scholars. The Principal has associated with himself gentlemen of education and of experience in teaching. His aim is to make the Institute one of the best Schools in the country. He will spare no pains or expense in accomplishing this end.

The Course of Instruction embraces all the branches of a liberal education. The Student may advance in Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, as far as the time of his stay will permit. Correct Reading, Writing, and Spelling, as the *indispensable* requisites of a good education, are carefully taught to the less advanced.

The Summer term will commence on Tuesday, the 2d of May; and the Winter term on the last Wednesday of October.

EXPENSES

For Board and Tuition, Summer Term of 20 weeks	$60.00
For Board and Tuition, Winter Term of 22 weeks	65.00
Washing per doz.	.30
Instruction on Piano, per term	10.00

No extra charges are made for Latin, Greek, or German

J. R. KOOKEN, *Principal*
Mercersburg, Pa.[2]

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[2] *Ibid.*, March 29, 1854.

In the Catalogue of 1854 the boys of the Mercersburg Collegiate Institution were informed that "there is to be no running about, nor is visiting allowed on the Sabbath; it is also desirable that each one should furnish his own towels and wash-basin." Students of the Institute established a literary society bearing the name *Philomathean*, the meetings of which were held week by week in one of the halls.

Within a year Principal Kooken had also taken charge of what came to be known as Franklin Female Institute. The Catalogue of 1854–55 gives a prospectus of both of these institutions. Franklin Female Institute was located on the same ground with the Institute for young men; but at the same time it was a distinct department, and occupied a separate building. The course of instruction for the girls embraced "all the branches of a complete English, literary, and ornamental education." Lessons on the piano and drawing were a part of the curriculum. The number of students in attendance during the year in the male department was seventy-eight, and in the female department thirty-three. The instructors were, besides the principal, the Rev. S. G. Wagner, Isaac P. Koons, S. C. Remsberg, Abner Dale, and Miss Margaretta Templeton. The students in the Franklin Female Institute during 1854–55 were the following:

Annie Beall, Mercersburg, Pa.
Margaret Beall, Mercersburg, Pa.
Ellen Beall, Mercersburg, Pa.
Eliza Bradley, Mercersburg, Pa.
Jinnie M. Bard, Scotville, Va.
Sarah J. Brownson, Washington, Pa.
Louisa Craig, Welsh Run, Pa.
R. Kate Cook, Cove, Pa.
Mary Cook, Cove, Pa.
Jinnie Cook, Cove, Pa.
Ariana Crossen, Mercersburg, Pa.
Hetty Crossen, Mercersburg, Pa.
Ellen Creigh, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lizzie D. Campbell, Mercersburg, Pa.
Mary Coyle, Mercersburg, Pa.

Jinnie Dick, Franklin county, Pa.
Mary Grubb, Mercersburg, Pa.
Jinnie Grubb, Mercersburg, Pa.
Matilda J. Hamilton, Mercersburg, Pa.
Annie Haller, Independence, Mo.
Estella Hughes, Williamsport, Md.
Kate Murphy, Mercersburg, Pa.
Sarah McCune, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lizzie McDowell, Franklin county, Pa.
Henrietta Patterson, Webster's Mills, Pa.
Mary Porter, Mercersburg, Pa.
Mary E. Parker, Mercersburg, Pa.
Eliza J. Robins, Georgetown, Va.
Sarah Skinner, Mercersburg, Pa.
Juniata Shirts, Mercersburg, Pa.
Eliza J. Wilson, Georgetown, Va.
Jinnie Wilkins, Mercersburg, Pa.
Rachel Wolf, Mercersburg, Pa.

Evidently Principal J. R. Kooken had charge of both schools. He was one of the original students of the York Classical Institute, one of the founders of the Diagnothian Literary Society, and one of the " immortal eighteen " who came to Mercersburg in the fall of 1836. Apparently he never graduated from Marshall College, but he received his diploma from the Theological Seminary and was licensed to preach in 1841. At different times he held charges at Dauphin; Grindstone Hill, Franklin County; Trappe, Montgomery County; and Norristown. At the last-named place he founded a ladies' school known as Elmwood Seminary. After teaching at Mercersburg a few years he accepted an appointment as United States consul at Trinidad under the administration of Mr. Buchanan. At the outbreak of the Civil War he returned to the United States and raised a company of which he became captain. He was killed in the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862.

The education of girls in Mercersburg was by no means an innovation under Principal Kooken. Long before the Franklin Female Institute was founded there had been a Female Seminary at Mercersburg under the principalship of Mrs.

Sarah A. Young, the widow of the Rev. Daniel Young, the first professor of Biblical Literature in the Theological Seminary. After Dr. Rauch's death, Mrs. Rauch, who was Mrs. Young's sister, joined her in conducting a select boarding school for young ladies. The prospectus of the school promised that the principals would watch over the health, manners, and habits of their students with maternal solicitude and would help them to be useful and happy in their domestic life. They promised also to pay more attention to solid than to ornamental branches of learning. The school was divided into three classes, each requiring a year to complete its course. The number of boarders was limited to twenty. Frequently some of the Theological Seminary students taught in Mrs. Young's school.

There is a prospectus extant of a Mercersburg Female Institute established in May, 1848 by E. Dean Dow and his wife, Susannah L. H. Dow, assisted by Cynthia Scarrott. In a recommendation of the school signed by Dr. Nevin and three of the Mercersburg pastors the suggestion was made that "to parents sending their sons to college, it may be expected to prove an accommodation, in some cases, to have the opportunity of placing their daughters at school in the same place." [3] Mr. and Mrs. Dow had come to Mercersburg from Port Chester, New York, very highly recommended as competent and conscientious teachers. Within a short time, however, the catalogues show that the Mercersburg Female Seminary had changed hands. The new principals were Mr. A. F. Gilbert and Mrs. Eliza Gilbert, assisted by Miss Elizabeth S. Findlay. These teachers had charge of the school when Marshall College went to Lancaster. The Board of Visitors of the Female Seminary located in Mercersburg under the care of Mr. Gilbert spoke very highly of its work, but also of its need of a far wider patronage.

Under all these circumstances one can readily see why, after 1853, the preparatory schools of Mercersburg included the teaching of girls as well as of boys.

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[3] *Prospectus and Catalogue of the Mercersburg Female Institute.* Philadelphia, 1848.

"When Mr. Kooken left in 1857 the citizens of Mercersburg formed a stock company under the name of Marshall Collegiate Institute. The Principal of this school in 1860 was the Rev. Joseph Loose, who was followed in 1862 by A. A. Kemble. Mr. Kemble died in 1863 and was succeeded by his daughters. The last to lease the school was Charles G. Fisher."[4]

The Rev. Mr. Loose was an old Marshall student who had entered the ministry in 1851, then turned his attention to teaching. He established the Cumberland Valley Institute at Mechanicsburg, then moved to a farm near Greencastle. From there he went to Mercersburg to take charge of the Academy, and taught until the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion.

The following paragraph from the *Messenger* affords us a good idea of the physical appearance of the Mercersburg campus at this time:

"It will be interesting to many throughout the Church to know that the old College property at Mercersburg is not given over to the moles and bats. The hall most remote from the town flourishes a public school, and the other buildings are used to house an Academical Institute. Two of the students connected with the Theological Seminary, C. G. FISHER and S. S. MILLER, assisted by several female teachers, are conducting the Institution. It has flourished during the present session beyond all expectation, some forty being already in attendance, while a number more signified their intention of entering shortly. The boarding-house is kept by a suitable family, and everything connected with the Institution moves forward with order, life, and success. One of the students also, MR. PILGRAM, attends to the musical department. The spirits of science and youthful literary aspirations still haunt the old classic grounds, which were erewhile designed for the scientific tournaments of old Marshall's vigorous sons."[5]

In 1864 an advertisement appeared stating that the Marshall Collegiate Institute (Male and Female), of Mercersburg, Pennsylvania was now in charge of Charles G. Fisher, assisted by S. S. Miller.[6] The Rev. Mr. Fisher was the only son of Dr. S. R. Fisher, and was born at Emmitsburg, Maryland. He graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1858, and after teaching for several years entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in 1863. He reorganized the Marshall Collegiate Institute during 1864 and was instrumental in its transformation into Mercersburg College in 1865. " When about two years ago," related the *Messenger*, " there was pressing need that Marshall Collegiate Institute be revived, Mr. Fisher was induced to undertake the work, afterward calling in Mr. Miller as his assistant. It was soon seen that it proved a complete success under his care, having brought to it his former experience in teaching. In the spring Mr. Miller accepted a pastoral charge; and Mr. Fisher, not intending to make teaching his business, proposed to the Mercersburg classis, that that body should buy the property and take charge of the school." [7] This proposal led to the organization of Mercersburg College under the care of the church.

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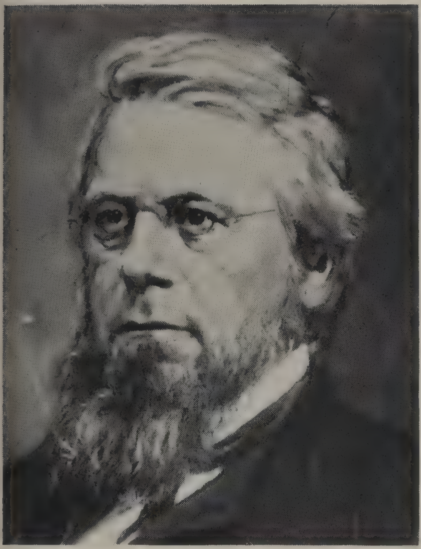
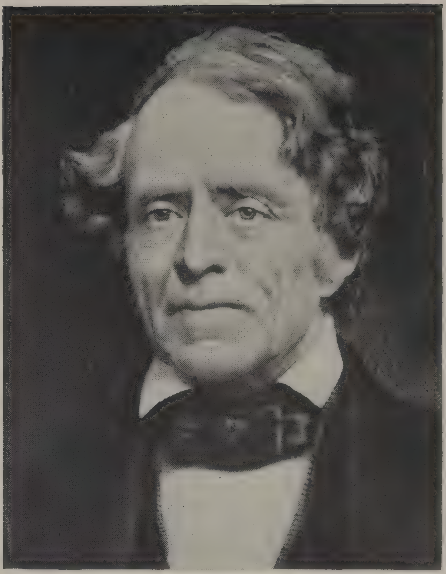
[4] *Old Mercersburg*, p. 50.

[5] *Reformed Church Messenger*, November 16, 1864.

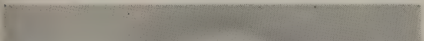
[6] *Ibid.*, September 14, 1864.
[7] *Ibid.*, September 20, 1865.



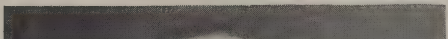
Henry Harbaugh, D.D.
1864–1867



Bernard C. Wolff, D.D.
1854–1864



Charles G. Fisher, D.D.
1864–1865



George W. Aughinbaugh, D.D.
1880–1893

CHAPTER XVIII

The Theological Seminary: 1853-1871

THE Theological Seminary remained at Mercersburg until it followed Marshall College to Lancaster in 1871. It continued to occupy Seminary Hill, the buildings on which included Old Main and the two professors' houses, North and South Cottages. After Marshall College was gone, the Seminary had a precarious existence for a few years. Dr. Nevin had resigned his professorship in 1851; in the same year Dr. Schaff was elected pastor of Salem Reformed Church, Philadelphia, and asked Synod to permit him to accept the position. Synod refused to accept his resignation, for otherwise the Seminary would have had to be closed entirely. As it was, there was only one professor in actual charge of his duties immediately after Marshall College went to Lancaster.

The finances of the Theological Seminary, as reported at this time by the treasurer, George Besore, were in poor condition. The assets, which originally were worth $31,000, now had an estimated cash value of $18,000. The interest actually received from the endowment was little more than $900. The Seminary was indebted to Marshall College to the amount of $3320. There was $1250 due to Dr. Schaff and $1000 to Dr. Nevin. There was a falling off in receipts from the church, and there were only fifteen students in the Seminary in the winter session of 1852, and ten in the summer session.

At the Synod of Baltimore in 1852 it was felt to be of the utmost importance to the interests of the Seminary and of the church that the vacancy caused by Dr. Nevin's resignation be filled as soon as possible. The committee appointed to nominate candidates for the professorship in the Seminary proposed the names of the Rev. Bernard C. Wolff, the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, and the Rev. Moses Kieffer. The election resulted in the choice of the Rev. Mr. Wolff on the second ballot. The officers of Synod promised him for his support $1000 annually, together with a free dwelling.

Meanwhile Dr. Schaff had been elected President of Franklin and Marshall College, an honor which Dr. Nevin declined at that time, and it was the hope of the new institution that Dr. Schaff would accept the position. The representatives of old Franklin College were especially anxious to have him in Lancaster. The first catalogue of Franklin and Marshall College (1852–53) lists Dr. Schaff as "President-Elect and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy."

Dr. Schaff informed the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary of his election to the presidency of the new college, and of his willingness to accept that appointment provided it should meet the approbation of Synod. At the same time he tendered his resignation as professor in the Seminary, subject to the decision of Synod.[1]

The Board of Visitors resolved that whatever action Synod might take on his resignation, it would be prejudicial to the interests of the Seminary and of the church should the Synod allow any arrangements to be made that would result in the closing of the Seminary even for a season.

Synod's committee resolved, "that while we sincerely regret the loss of Dr. Schaff's important services to the Seminary, yet in view of the peculiar circumstances of both institutions, we do hereby accept of his resignation, not without earnest expectation, however, that as soon as the endowment of the Seminary justifies the continuance of the two professors, he be called upon to resume his former relation to it."[2]

This resolution was not carried. The following substitute was offered and passed: that "Synod cannot consent to relinquish the services of the Rev. Dr. Schaff or to his retirement from the chair which he has so ably and faithfully filled in our Seminary."

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[1] Proceedings of the Philadelphia Synod, October, 1853.

[2] *Ibid.*

Meanwhile Dr. Wolff had failed to accept the call to the professorship which had been placed in his hands the year previous. Therefore it was resolved " that Synod fraternally urge upon Dr. Wolff, the President-Elect, the acceptance of the said professorship, and that arrangements be made to sustain and support him promptly and faithfully."

Dr. Henry Harbaugh, who headed a committee to inform Dr. Schaff and Dr. Wolff of Synod's action, reported that " they deemed some further action necessary in the case of Rev. Dr. Schaff, and with a view to obtaining this they recommended a reconsideration of their recommendations." The Synod, however, refused to accede to this request. Therefore Dr. Schaff did not serve as President of Franklin and Marshall College, but remained at Mercersburg for another decade.

Following this, " a letter was received from the Rev. Dr. Schaff, requesting Synod to grant him leave of absence from the Seminary for one year, for the purpose of affording him an opportunity to visit his relatives and friends in Europe, which he has, for some time past, contemplated doing, and which he thinks can be best done at the present juncture. The following resolution was adopted in reference to this request:

" *Resolved,* That, in view of the ardous labors, which the Rev. Dr. Schaff has been rendering the Church in his relation to the Theological Seminary since his connection therewith, this Synod thinks it due to him, to acquiesce in his request, and accordingly authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, to make such provision as may be necessary to enable him to enter upon the proposed tour." [3]

For one year the Seminary was closed. Dr. Schaff was in Europe and Dr. Wolff had reported to the Synod that he was unwilling to assume the sole responsibility of conducting the institution; that he could not think of burdening the church with additional expense for his support unless prompt and adequate provision were made to meet it; and that it would be in every way grateful to his feelings if Synod should relieve him from accepting the responsibilities of the office to which he had been called.

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[3] *Ibid.*

Within a year the tide turned. Two handsome gifts came to the help of the needy Seminary. The Board reported to the Synod of 1854 that they felt " a debt of gratitude is due to God for the special favor bestowed upon our Theological Seminary during the present year, in the important aid she has received towards the permanent endowment of her professorships. The liberal bequest of $10,000 by Daniel Kieffer of Berks County at a time so unexpected has aroused our drooping energies. Our hearts were still further cheered by the gift of $5000 on the part of Miss Ann E. Keller of Huntingdon, Pa." [4]

These two gifts in the hour of deepest need actually saved the Theological Seminary. The professors' houses were fitted up for the reception of their occupants and the Seminary building was once more put into suitable repair. The treasurer said, " As there have been no professors in the Seminary during the present year, we have been enabled to pay off the entire debt due to them from former years and several old claims held against the Seminary from other sources." [5]

The Board of Visitors reported, " During the last year the Seminary was closed. The Board, however, held its usual semi-annual meetings. The Board likewise resolved to reopen our Seminary on the first Tuesday in November next, and instructed the Rev. Dr. Wolff, the President-Elect, to make his arrangements to enter upon his duties at that time."

Meanwhile Dr. Schaff had returned from Europe and the treasurer of the Board was instructed to pay him his salary for the past year, the same as though he had been in actual service in the Seminary. Dr. Wolff had by this time accepted the professorship of Didactic and Practical Theology, and arrangements were made for his inauguration, to be held in Chambersburg November 29, 1854. In the ten years during which Dr. Wolff served as Professor of Theology at Mercersburg he practically had administrative control of the institution. He was a business man as well as a scholar, as his interesting life history will show.

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[4] Proceedings of the Lewisburg Synod, 1854.

[5] *Ibid.*

His ancestors had emigrated from the Palatinate early in the eighteenth century, bringing with them their certificates of dismissal from the Reformed Church, and settling in Tulpehocken, which was then in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. One of them was a charter member of the Reformed Church of Lancaster. The father of Dr. Wolff moved to Martinsburg, West Virginia, which was then a part of Virginia, and served as a justice on the county court bench. There is an interesting story connected with the early education of Bernard C. Wolff. It appears that "B. M. Koulston, Esq., a gentleman of wealth and education, noticed the boy's brightness and proposed to his father to take him to his own home, a few miles from Martinsburg, in order that he might enjoy the higher educational advantages which Mr. Koulston had provided through private tutors for his own children. Here he made rapid progress in the Latin, and possessed the advantage of being brought into contact with persons of the highest social culture,—some of them members of the Washington, Fairfax, and Dandridge families. Mrs. Koulston was the sister of Hon. John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States, and Dr. Wolff uniformly spoke of her as the model of a refined Christian lady."[6]

This fact is interesting in the light of what we have already stated, namely, that Bernard Wolff first suggested the name of John Marshall for the college at Mercersburg.

Mr. Koulston wanted Wolff to enter Princeton along with his sons, but his father sent him to Chambersburg to study under the Rev. Dr. Denny, a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church; and after the boy had been prepared to enter the junior class in college the father took him back home to Martinsburg with a view to associating him with himself in his own business. At eighteen he was given a half interest in the business, and at twenty-one he purchased the remaining interest and prosecuted it on his own account.

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[6] *Reformed Church Messenger,* December 14, 1870.

While at Martinsburg he was married to Charlotte Wolff of Chambersburg, and in their hospitable home their pastor, the Rev. Lewis Mayer, was frequently entertained. It was through Dr. Mayer, who went from Martinsburg to York, and thence to Carlisle, that Bernard Wolff became interested in the newly founded Theological Seminary. "On one occasion, along with his cousin, Barnard Wolff, Esq., of Chambersburg, he rode on horseback to Carlisle to see his former pastor, Dr. Mayer, and conversed with him in regard to the church, and the Theological Seminary which had just been started with him as its first professor. Dr. Mayer was sad, cast-down, yet full of zeal for the prosperity of the church. There were no means at hand to sustain the Seminary, and its prospects were unpromising. Dr. Mayer's young friend from Virginia comprehended all this; but hopeful and sanguine, and possessed of no small degree of tact and practical talents, he devised on his way back home, a plan by which to raise $10,000 for the Seminary in $100 subscriptions. His relatives and friends in Virginia and Chambersburg aided him at the commencement, and with the assistance of his pastor, the Rev. Jacob Beecher, the plan was successfully carried through. This was his first effort, in a financial way, to place the educational institutions of the church on a permanent basis. It was not by any means the last."[7]

B. C. Wolff was deeply moved by the need of the church. He saw that its ministers were few, that it was without institutions of learning, and that it had no means of sustaining itself, and therefore, after thirteen years in business in Martinsburg, he decided to enter the ministry and give it at least the benefit of whatever business talent he might have.

"In the thirty-seventh year of his age, on a cold winter's day, with the snow drifting heavily before a high wind, he started with his wife and three children in a sleigh on the way to the Theological Seminary at York, leaving behind him his pleasant home."[8]

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[7] *Ibid.* December 14, 1870.

[8] *Ibid.* December 14, 1870.

After graduating from the Seminary he received three calls: one from Gettysburg, one from Martinsburg, and one from Easton. He accepted the call to the Reformed Church at Easton in 1833, and later became pastor of a Reformed Church in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1845. It was while serving the Baltimore congregation that he was elected Professor of Theology in the Seminary at Mercersburg.

He was greatly interested in helping needy students in a practical way. He represented the church on the Board of Beneficiary Education. One student said, " I remember when Dr. Wolff called us together in the room and addressed us in his usual mild and earnest way: ' Dear young brethren, we are always pleased to meet you here and willing at all times to do for you most cheerfully all that is in our power, because we know you are preparing yourselves for the Christian ministry. We are, however, often short of means necessary to enable us to assist you to the extent you wish. You will allow me most affectionately to admonish you all to live as economically as you possibly can during your course of study. Don't spend any money for such things as will do you no good. When you go home in vacation time, if the distance be not too great, take your staff in hand and go on foot. Many a time did I travel from seventy to ninety miles during the vacation in going to and from my parental home.' It seems to me as though I could yet see his venerable form standing in front of the rostrum in Dr. Nevin's recitation room, holding his spectacles in his hand while he was talking." [9]

Dr. Wolff served the Seminary faithfully and ably for ten years. Two weeks before the Battle of Gettysburg, when the Seminary was temporarily closed on account of the invasion of Pennsylvania under General Lee, Dr. Wolff gave notice to the members of the Board of Visitors that in accordance with a purpose entertained for some time he intended to resign the office of Professor of Didactic and Practical Theology at the ensuing meeting of synod. The resignation was duly presented:

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[9] *Ibid.*, January 11, 1871.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE SYNOD OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH IN SESSION AT CARLISLE, PA.

Beloved Brethren in the Lord:—The Undersigned, in pursuance of a purpose entertained for some time, hereby resigns the office of Professor of Didactic and Practical Theology conferred upon him eleven years ago, by your venerable body: the resignation to take effect on the first day of April next ensuing.

In thus prospectively dissolving his official connexion with the Theological Seminary, it may not be amiss for the undersigned to say, that when he first accepted of your commission, it was with the determination to return it to your hands, as soon as his sense of duty to the Church would allow him to do so. He thinks it may be done with propriety now, and that there will be no difficulty in filling his place with one more competent than himself to discharge its duties.

In fulfilling this determination, he would not have it thought that his zeal for the Seminary has suffered any abatement. It is now forty-three years since it first engaged his attention as a member of the Committee of Synod to draft the plan of its organization, and from that time to this, it has ever been an object dear to his heart, and with every movement made in the Church for its establishment and promotion, he has always been more or less closely identified. It is, therefore, not to be supposed that his interest and concern for its welfare will ever cease. Thus influenced and disposed, he regards the Tercentenary Celebration, in which the Church is still engaged, as of great importance in connexion with its future prosperity, and he indulges the hope that the benevolent zeal of our people in its favor is not yet exhausted; but will continue to be exhibited under the auspices and direction of Synod until all the Institutions of the Church are placed upon the broadest and firmest, and most efficient foundation.

Earnestly praying, beloved Brethren, that the Spirit of the Lord, the Master of assemblies, may be with you in your deliberations to guide you by His counsel, and to assist you by His grace, he subscribes himself with sentiments of affectionate regard your fellow servant in Christ.

BERNARD C. WOLFF[10]

Mercersburg, Oct. 21st, 1863.

After leaving Mercersburg in 1864 Dr. Wolff removed to Lancaster, where he was of great help to Franklin and Marshall College for a time. His business talent, his tact and vision were useful in securing many and liberal gifts for the college. Thus, as Dr. Theodore Appel says, "His first effort in the church was to endow the Seminary, and his last to assist the college."[11] He was interested in every activity of the church, having been President of the Board of Foreign Missions, a member of the liturgical committee, and one of the most active supporters of religious publicational interests. He died in Lancaster on November 1, 1870. The last word he uttered was the name of Rauch, beside whom he now rests in the old Lancaster Cemetery. He was a man of rare tact, great kindness, keen foresight. Few men have exerted a more marked influence on the policy of their church and her institutions.

During Dr. Schaff's visit to Europe in 1853 he delivered lectures in many cities of Switzerland and Germany on the political, social, and religious condition of the United States of America, and emphasized especially the spiritual wants of the emigrants from central Europe, with a view to stimulating the religious interest of the Protestant churches of Europe in the thousands who were annually leaving their countries for the shores of the new world. Upon his return he brought with him boxes of valuable books from authors and publishers in England, Germany, and Switzerland for the library of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster and for the library of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. He also brought a letter from v. Bethmann-Hollweg, chairman of the Central Committee of the Inner Mission of the Evangelical Church of Germany, suggesting that the European churches should make provision for young men of piety and talents in the American church " to visit our theological institutions and qualify themselves to become professors in your seminaries and thus to labor for the increase and improvement of your spiritual strength." Besides, wrote Chancellor Hollweg, " our central committee is prepared to extend assistance to such persons for the attainment of that object." [12] The outcome of this suggestion was the establishment of the tutorial system at Mercersburg. Following this letter Dr. Schaff urged upon the synod the propriety of establishing a theological tutorship in the Seminary. A generous offer of the donation of $2000 toward the establishment of a theological tutorship was made by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, and the Synod of the Reformed Church meeting at Frederick, Maryland in 1858 decided to establish one, the nature and object of which was described as follows:

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[10] Quoted in Proceedings of the Carlisle Synod, October, 1863.

[11] Appel. *Fathers of the Reformed Church,* vol. iv, p. 263.

" 1. The object of the tutorship is to increase the teaching force of the Seminary and to raise the standard of theological education among the students; to be a school for the training of professors in our institutions; and to serve at the same time as a perpetual and living bond of union between our church and the mother churches of Germany.

" 2. The tutorship contemplates the employment and support of a regular succession of two young men, graduates of our literary and theological institutions, and distinguished for diligence, scholarship, and Christian character, who shall be simultaneously engaged, the one in completing his theological, and general literary education in Europe, the other in teaching, as assistant professor, such branches in our Seminary as may be assigned to him.

" 3. Every two years the Board of Visitors of the Seminary shall recommend to Synod one of the graduates of the Seminary as a candidate for the first term of the tutorship, who shall visit Europe for two years with a view to prosecute and complete his studies under the general direction of the faculty in one or more of the principal universities of Germany and Switzerland.

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[12] Quoted in Proceedings of the Chambersburg Synod, October, 1855. The letter is dated from Berlin, May 22, 1855.

" 4. On the return of the incumbent of the first tutorship from Europe, the Synod shall elect him tutor in the Seminary for a period of two years, after which time the second incumbent on his return shall in like manner succeed him as teaching tutor, and thus a regular succession of travelling and teaching pupils shall be kept up biennially so long as the plan may be perpetuated.

" 5. The travelling incumbent of the tutorship shall receive towards his support during his absence in Europe, the sum of at least $200 annually from the treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary, and in addition to it the annual proceeds of the Bethmann-Hollweg fund.

" 6. The teaching incumbent shall receive from the Board of Trustees the annual salary of $400 and shall also be entitled to the free use of rooms in the Seminary Building, where he is expected to reside." [13]

The details of the plan were worked out by Dr. Philip Schaff, who worked hard to create an additional fund of not less than $10,000, to be called " the fund of the theological tutorship." The plan was carried into effect in 1861. The Board of Visitors of the Seminary nominated the Rev. Benjamin Bausman and the Rev. William M. Reily as the candidates for the teaching tutorships. Dr. Bausman declined the honor and thus escaped being a theological professor. The final outcome was that William M. Reily and Jacob B. Kershner became the first incumbents of the tutorships. In a few years the tutorship fund developed into a third professorship in the Seminary, which was first occupied by Dr. Frederick A. Gast in 1873. The following letter written by the Rev. J. B. Kershner explains at first hand the working of the tutorial scheme:

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[13] Proceedings of the Synod of Frederick, 1858.

Bellevue, Pa.
April 25th '03

REV. AMBROSE M. SCHMIDT
Rev. and dear Sir:

In reply to your favor of the 20th ins. I send you the following notes:

My connection with our Theological Seminary grew primarily out of what was then known as the Tutorship Scheme. It was an effort on the part of the Prussian Minister of Culture, von Bethmann-Hollweg, to keep the German churches in America somewhat in touch with the church of the Fatherland. As to the inauguration of this plan—which certainly constitutes one of the most interesting episodes in regard to our Seminary—I prefer to refer you to others, who probably are better posted in that matter than I am: viz., to Rev. Dr. D. S. Schaff, who has probably all his father's correspondence with Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg; to Dr. B. Bausman, Dr. Santee, Rev. S. N. Callender, and Mr. Jacob Heyser. From these sources, and perhaps others, to which they may refer you, you can get an outline of what occurred in regard to this scheme up to the Synod of Easton in the fall of 1861. In explanation of what I have to say I add that the plan proposed two tutors, much on the plan of the *Repetenten* of the celebrated *Stifft* at Tübingen. The Travelling Tutor was to go abroad two or three years to continue his theological education; he then returned to become Teaching Tutor while another student took his place abroad. Now it had happened Rev. W. M. Reily had been in Germany and had just returned at the time of the meeting of the Easton Synod. Thus he was elected as Teaching Tutor, while I was selected as Travelling Tutor; and so the scheme was put into practical operation, and my connexion with the Theological Seminary began.

I went to Germany the following March, having spent the winter at Mercersburg in further preparation, with Dr. Schaff's consent. I had two semesters at Tübingen, and three at Berlin: returned to America and assumed my duties in the Theological Seminary about Nov. 1st, 1864. Meanwhile there had been quite a revolution in the Seminary itself. Drs. Schaff and Wolff were in charge when I left; at my return, Dr. S. had a leave of absence which proved permanent; the good Dr. W. had retired from the labors of a faithful and beneficent life. I do not know the exact date of Dr. Harbaugh's entrance upon his duties as Dr. Wolff's successor. It was, I think, Oct. '63. Dr. Higbee had come in the spring of '64.

Why the Tutorship scheme was dropped I cannot tell. Probably the commotion of the Civil War, and the resulting demoralization of our finances had much to do with it. (At the last remittance, received from U. States, Aug. '64, the rate of exchange was 2.83. The church could not send money abroad at such ruinous loss!) I was re-elected from year to year 1865–70, until at the removal to Lancaster in 1870 I declined further re-election, thus severing my connection with the Theological Seminary. During those years I took my turn in preaching in the chapel, writing out every sermon I ever preached there. I wrote out a manuscript history of Israel from its beginning to the Temple, notes on Isaiah and the twelve prophets, and a full course of lectures on Old Testament Theology (mainly relying on my notes of Dr. Oehler's celebrated course on that subject; since given to the public). I am happy that I was called to serve the Great Cause in this way, and that I could do so. I am sorry I can do so little now—they also serve who stand and wait. Assuredly my heart is in the work . . .[14]

Dr. J. B. Kershner lived in South Cottage and taught in the Seminary until it was moved to Lancaster, and also in Mercersburg College, remaining with the latter institution until it was closed in 1879. From a niece of Dr. Kershner, Mrs. T. K. Worthington, the writer has obtained the following facts concerning one of Mercersburg's really talented and scholarly teachers:

Jacob Brewer Kershner, oldest son of Gustavus and Anna Brewer Kerschner, was born Jan. 25th, 1838, at Midwood, near Clearspring, Washington Co., Md.

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[14] Original in "Memorial Portfolio of Marshall and Franklin and Marshall Colleges" in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

He attended the district school of the community and was prepared by one of his teachers to enter Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa., at the age of sixteen, where he graduated in 1858. He then took the three years course at the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at Mercersburg, Pa., at the same time teaching in the private preparatory school conducted by the Rev. Mr. Loos.

After graduating from the Seminary, he was chosen theological tutor, and was sent by the church to Germany for two years' theological study at the universities of Tübingen and Berlin in preparation for the duties of the tutorship. On his return, he taught Hebrew, Old Testament Exegesis and Old Testament history at the Seminary from 1864 until the Seminary was removed to Lancaster, in 1871. From 1865 to 1872 he also taught classes in German, the classics, and mathematics in Mercersburg College.

On the removal of the Seminary, he devoted all his time to work in the College until its close in 1879, except for a six months' absence necessitated by nervous prostration resulting from overwork.

This trouble, which had been increasing through three years, culminated in 1876, and, on the advice of his physician, Dr. Hammond of New York, he embarked for Germany for treatment, taking a sailing vessel for the benefit of the long sea-voyage.

After some months' treatment in Germany and Switzerland, greatly improved in health and vigor, he took ship for home at Havre, December 10, '76.

Before daybreak next morning, in a dense fog on the English Channel, the ship collided with an iron freighter bound for India, and sank almost instantly, barely giving time for the crew of seventeen and two passengers to take to the one life boat.

The boat, heavily laden, was almost level with the water and the December rain fell steadily, so that the boat's crew were obliged to bail constantly with their caps during the twelve hours that passed before their signals of distress were observed and they were picked up by a steamer which put them ashore at Yarmouth.

He again took ship at Liverpool and reached New York after a stormy voyage of nineteen days. He felt the effects of the exposure and nervous strain of the wreck for a long time; however he resumed his duties at once, but the nervous trouble brought about a steadily increasing deafness, which made it necessary for him to give up his professional work.

In June 1869, he had married Miss Anna B. Motter of Emmitsburg, Md. and went with his family to a farm near Emmitsburg in 1881. He remained there until 1897, when he moved to Pittsburgh, where he made his home for the rest of his life. All the leisure moments of his life on the farm were spent in pursuing his studies in botany, mathematics, the classics and philosophy with indefatigable industry. He had always a great desire to read Dante in the original and after his removal to Pittsburgh he took up Italian, persevering until he had attained his wish. He also gained a reading knowledge of Spanish and devoted much time to French and German literature in these latter years. He died after a short illness of pneumonia on November 13, 1909, and was buried at Emmitsburg, November 15th.

We have already referred to the Civil War period in Mercersburg, and to the experiences of some of the students during those trying days (p. 208). Two descriptions, one by a former student and the other by an eye-witness, may be of interest in showing how the Seminary students lived at that time.

(1)

" The housing of the students in the Seminary building was anything but modern and comfortable. They were required to furnish their rooms with everything save bedsteads and ten-plate stoves. The bedding, heating, carpeting when this could be enjoyed, the buying of cord wood, sawing it and carrying it upstairs, the securing of water from a well on the campus, the ringing of the bell for lecture hours, etc., was the task of the students. But notwithstanding these unfavourable conditions, the faculty and students labored together harmoniously; the life of both was devoted to serious and diligent work.

"The only recreation for the students consisted of excursions on foot to the tops of the mountains, west and north, the climbing of Parnell's Knob, the last being a strenuous feat, the visiting of a small cave east of the Seminary campus, and walking to and fro on the stone porch of Main Hall. There was in those early days none of the modern ball and other games. During the rainy days and when the earth was covered with snow and ice, there was no place or time to indulge in outdoor sports. There were long and dreary days; but they were none the less beneficial for they taught us lessons of sociability and patience.

"During our residence in the Seminary there were only two full professors, the Rev. Bernard C. Wolff, D.D., and the Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D., and a tutor, William M. Reily.

"One of the most pleasurable and profitable customs of Dr. Schaff was to invite the students to spend one evening a week in his home, the Old North Cottage. They were free to ask him any proper questions; and, as he was a versatile scholar, we learned many things that had to be omitted in the lecture room. These evenings reminded one of Socrates gathering around him some of the young men of Athens, asking and answering questions. The evenings continue to be remembered and their fragrance will not pass away while we live.

"Allow me to make a little digression which I believe will interest the reader. Dr. Schaff had a small boy who frequently came to our room, and, when asked his name, he would reply: 'My name is Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, D.D., Jr.' He had perfect curls coming down to his shoulder and was the perfection of childhood bodily, mentally, and spiritually. To us he looked as if our Lord had filled him with His life, for the figure and face of that beautiful boy looked more like a heavenly than a human being. I have never seen any child like him. When death took him suddenly by accident his father and mother were heart-broken and the students were deeply grieved." [15]

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[15] Heilman, U. Henry (Class of '62). "Reminiscences of the Theological Seminary" in the *Bulletin of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States*, January, 1932.

(2)

A DAY AT THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The *time* we write about is Friday, the 23rd of February, 1866; the *place* is Mercersburg, Pa.; and the first fact that strikes us is, that " all is *not* quiet along the lines " to-day.

Those of our readers who have ever been at Mercersburg —and there are some, especially, of our ministers who have known that the Seminary is located on a rise east of the town, and that there is an avenue leading up to the building celebrated for having a side foot-path, which is, in its turn, celebrated for being superlatively muddy, especially in the spring of the year.

It is along the line of that path that all is not quiet to-day. Look down upon it! It is alive with human beings! Who are they? At a distance, they look like a company of Irish making a railroad! Can it be that this is the beginning of the railroad which is to come to Mercersburg at last? But this theory we discard as untenable. They are not Irish! Closer observation discovers them to be about eighteen theological students, with a slight sprinkling of Professors and other inhabitants of " the Hill " among them.

It is a mild day. The sun shines. See how the spades, shovels, mattocks and picks glitter in the sunlight, as they are most zealously and dexterously wielded by earnest men! Wheelbarrows go to and fro. Hills sink—valleys rise. The path is made *high*, that it may be *dry*. There is such life and enterprise on this side of town as have not been seen since the rebel invasion, though we have not heard that the excitement was known in the town itself till some time after dinner, when several of the prominent citizens came out to see. " Is the railroad coming? "—that is now the all-absorbing question. Echo answers, " It is not coming."

It is believed that there are still some former students and Professors of Marshall College living, who, over twenty years ago, worked on this same line. This fact forbids us from speaking out. Otherwise, we would feel constrained to say that, for the sake of economizing, or for some other reason to the present writer unknown, the grading was not at that time perfectly done. Not sufficiently at that time was the hill put into the valley, and consequently the grade was left rather heavy. Nor was the path sufficiently raised above the other ground. To a great extent have the defects of that time now been remedied, showing that the age has made progress, and that what college students think good enough, theological students fall to work to improve, and actually do it.

The sun is sinking behind that familiar mountain. The work of levelling is done. The students are ready for their supper,—on which said supper, as also on the dinner preceding it, not much profit will be made by those who furnish it. Men that work well must eat well.[16]

"Mercersburg is patriotic as well as theological," remarked the *Messenger* on another occasion. "On the evening of the 6th [April, 1865], an appropriate celebration of the recent victories was held in the campus of the Seminary. The Seminary building was beautifully illuminated. Many of the citizens of the town were present. Patriotic airs were sung by the students, among which, as one of the finest we ever heard, was 'The Sword of Bunker Hill'; and several speeches were delivered. Many of the houses in town were also illuminated. The border people, so long compelled to live in the most painful suspense, and experience the desolations of war, so long hearing only the ominous sounds of hostile cannon, and beholding the livid light of burning towns, have cause to rejoice over their release and deliverance. Now, they hear the cannon along the Potomac too, but it is the firing of salutes over victories. Now, the valley is again lighted up, but it is by the illuminations over the death of rebellion."[17]

After the resignation of Dr. Wolff in 1863 the Synod of Carlisle held an election to fill the vacancy. The Rev. Henry Harbaugh, D.D., having received a majority of all the votes, was elected Professor of Didactic and Practical Theology. This proved to be an excellent choice, for Dr. Harbaugh was a part of the very life and spirit of Mercersburg. He supplemented the work of Rauch, Nevin, and Schaff, as he was not only a theologian, philosopher, and church historian but he was gifted as a poet of unusual talent.

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[16] *Reformed Church Messenger,* March 7, 1866.

[17] *Ibid.,* April 19, 1865.

Born in 1817 at the base of the South Mountain in Franklin County, he came to Mercersburg as a student in 1840. He was an awkward country boy but he was eager, able, and ambitious. Dr. Rauch died shortly after the young student's enrollment in Marshall College. But Dr. Nevin was in the full vigor of his academic career.

The story goes that the students tried very hard to get young Harbaugh to join a literary society and tried on him all the arts and wiles of the politician. The Goetheans said the Diagnothians were too lazy and lacked piety, and the Diagnothians said the Goetheans were too provincial. So Harbaugh answered, "Well, if the Diagnothians are lacking in piety, perhaps I can do them some good." In any case, he wrote the following letter:

Marshall College, Dec. 1840

TO THE HONORABLE, THE MEMBERS OF THE DIAGNOTHIAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

Sirs:

Having connected myself with this institution, and intending to spend some time in the pursuit of literature, and being aware of the advantages which may be derived from a connection with such an association as yours, I have come to the conclusion to offer myself to your honorable body as a candidate for membership.

I have come to this conclusion not without a great deal of consideration, and have been induced to prefer your society from a belief that I shall be enabled to unite with you with greater pleasure and benefit in the several duties which your society from time to time imposes upon her members.

Should this request be granted I hope ever after to be

Your very humble servant
HENRY HARBAUGH[18]

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[18] Original in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

At the anniversary celebration of the Diagnothian Literary Society on July 4, 1842, he delivered an oration on "The Tomb of Washington."

He did not graduate from Marshall College, but combined his college course and seminary course, leaving in the autumn of 1843. Altogether he spent less than three years in college and seminary.

Then he spent twenty years in the active ministry, beginning in Lewisburg, where he remained for six years, until 1850, when he was called to the First Reformed Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. While there, he wrote extensively, volume after volume, article after article, poem after poem.

In 1860 he received a call from the newly organized Saint John's Reformed Church in Lebanon. In the autumn of 1863 he was elected by the Synod of Carlisle to succeed Dr. Wolff in the Seminary. He remained in this position only four years, his life coming to an end in 1867, when he was fifty years old. But in the four years that Dr. Harbaugh spent in Mercersburg in the latter days of his life he wielded an influence that is a living part of the life and spirit of the Mercersburg institutions to this day.

He arrived at Mercersburg on January 7, 1864, lived for a short time in North Cottage, and then moved to South Cottage, which became his permanent residence. There was a very congenial group at Mercersburg and the surrounding towns at this time. These men organized the Theological Club and held frequent meetings. Dr. Bausman speaks of Dr. Harbaugh and Dr. Higbee at Mercersburg and Dr. Thomas G. Apple at Greencastle. He says, "The three formed a delightful social circle. The mutual visits were frequent and most cordial. These three royal men beautifully stood by one another in trouble. They found a delightful compensation for the solitude of their college life in a literary and social club." [19]

Dr. Harbaugh threw himself into his work at once. He lectured in the Seminary from seven to nine, and from eleven to twelve. He retained his editorship of the *Guardian* and began writing his inaugural address. The inauguration ceremonies took place in May of 1864. The subject of the address was "Christological Theology," the original copy of which was destroyed in the burning of Chambersburg by the Confederate forces. The printers being engaged on it at the time, the author had no other copy of it than that which was in their hands. It was afterwards rewritten and printed under the original title. Had Dr. Harbaugh lived a few years longer he would have fulfilled the ambition of his life, which was to make Christ the very center of everything he wrote. He had already exemplified this in two hymns that he had given to the church:

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[19] Quoted by Harbaugh, Linn. *Op. cit.*, p. 255.

(1)

A HYMN

I.

Jesus, my Shepherd, let me share
Thy guiding hand, Thy tender care;
And let me ever find in Thee,
A refuge and a rest for me.

II.

Jesus, O lead me by Thy side,
Where fields are green, and waters glide!
And be Thou still, where'er I be,
A refuge and a rest for me.

III.

While I this barren desert tread,
Feed Thou my soul on heavenly bread;
'Mid foes and fears Thee may I see,
A refuge and a rest for me.

IV.

Anoint me with Thy gladdening grace,
To cheer me in the heavenly race;
Cause all my gloomy doubts to flee,
And make my spirit rest in Thee.

V.

When death shall end this mortal strife,
Bring me through death to endless life;
Then face to face beholding Thee,
My refuge and my rest shall be.

(2)

JESUS, I LIVE TO THEE

Jesus, I live to Thee,
The loveliest and best;
My life in Thee, Thy life in me,
In Thy blest love I rest.

Jesus, I die to Thee,
Whenever death shall come;
To die in Thee is life to me
In my eternal home.

Whether to live or die,
I know not which is best;
To live in Thee is bliss to me,
To die is endless rest.

Living or dying, Lord,
I ask but to be Thine;
My life in Thee, Thy life in me,
Makes heaven forever mine.

This latter hymn, *Jesus, I Live to Thee,* has been adopted as the official hymn of Mercersburg Academy, symbolizing as it does the life and spirit of the institution.

Harbaugh's *Harfe,* a collection of poems in the Pennsylvania German dialect published after his death, met with a favorable reception. There were those who said that it marked a new epoch in Pennsylvania German literature.

Dr. Harbaugh died at Mercersburg on December 28, 1867, and was buried in the churchyard of Trinity Reformed Church, at the foot of Seminary Hill. Several years later the

Synod of the church unveiled a monument which is still standing and which in many respects is unique.

"The monument is of fine Italian marble, twelve feet high, resting on a granite base and terminating in a cross. It is in tableau design; the front surface resting on three terraces of stone, is three feet in width. Just under the cross and above the shield which bears his name, title, and date of birth and death, the artist has cut an almost life size bust, and on the right of the shield, in three-quarter relief, stands a student with book in hand weeping. On the other side of the shield stands the figure of an angel, also in three-quarter relief, with head uncovered and face turned upward, the forefinger of the right hand pointing upward. This angel bears in his other hand a palm leaf, the symbol of victory. On the two lower terraces of marble, in front, is the lettering. On the upper, a stanza from one of Dr. Harbaugh's hymns as follows:

'Living or dying, Lord,
I ask but to be Thine;
My life in Thee, Thy life in me,
Makes heav'n forever mine.'

"The lower slab, immediately above the granite base, contains simply the family name—'Harbaugh.'

"Upon the right and left face of this lower block are cut two extracts from the Pennsylvania-German poem, 'Heemweh,' which in the original is touching and full of pathos. The one is:

'O wann's net vor der Himmel wär,
Mit seiner scheene Ruh,
Dann wär m'r's do schun lang verleedt,
Ich wisst net, was zu dhu.
Doch Hoffnung leichtet meinen Weg
Der ew'gen Heemet zu.'

"On the other side, from the same poem—

'Dort find m'r, was m'r do verliert,
Un b'halt's in Ewigkeit;
Dort lewe unsre Dodte all,
In Licht un ew'ger Freid!'"[20]

The spirit of Harbaugh is felt today in every educational institution of the church. His fine sense of loyalty and devoted service to the schools that ministered to his life in earlier days was beautifully expressed by his son Linn Harbaugh:

"It were well for men of a later generation could they awaken to the truth that he who wilfully and permanently severs himself from the life of his alma mater, thereby proves himself false to the memory of those noble men who gave their best years, yea, their very lives, against odds that this school might live and her light continue to shine among men."[21]

Just about the time Dr. Wolff resigned from the Seminary, and Dr. Harbaugh was elected in his place, the Synod at its meeting in Carlisle during October 1863 received the following letter from Dr. Schaff:

THE REVEREND SYNOD OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES.

Reverend and Dear Brethren:—For reasons connected with my literary labors and with the educational and other interests of my family, I respectfully ask your reverend body at your next annual meeting *to grant me leave of absence from active service in the Seminary for a term of two years.*

I expect to spend the greater part of this time in Europe in accordance with a long cherished desire, and with repeated invitations of my relatives and friends. I can do there as much service for our Church, I trust, as at home, and at the same time acquire fresh health and vigor for future labors in my adopted country.

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[20] *Ibid.*, pp. 297–8.
[21] *Ibid.*, p. 141.

I shall not depart till I have completed two works which now occupy all my leisure hours, viz., the second volume of my *General Church History,* from the beginning of the fourth to the close of the sixth century, and the first of a *Theological and Homiletical Commentary on the New Testament,* which will be published next spring. But it may be necessary for me to spend a part of the coming winter in New York to consult its large libraries and to facilitate the publication of these books.

I hope, therefore, that Synod will make at once the necessary arrangements for the temporary occupancy of my place in the Seminary. I beg leave to refer you to a similar provision made prospectively at your meeting in Lebanon in 1860, in view of the request of the German pastors of New York city and vicinity, concerning an important, but difficult philanthropic and Christian enterprise, which, owing to my own disinclination and the sudden outbreak of the civil war, was never carried into effect.

During the two years of my absence from active duty, I think it proper, in justice both to my feelings, and the financial condition of the Seminary, to forego the emoluments of my professorship. I would only request the use of a few rooms in my dwelling or in the Seminary building for the accommodation of my library and furniture.

I need not assure you, dear Brethren, that, in view of the uncertainty of all human plans and of life itself, even a temporary separation from the Seminary to which I have devoted twenty years of my youth and manhood, is painful to my feelings. You know how often I declined calls to other fields of labor: for three were brought to your notice for action, one by my own unwillingness to decide the question, the other two without my knowledge and consent. And how could I forget the repeated assurances of confidence and affection, which you have given me by your prompt and almost unanimous refusal to part with my services? It is only after earnest reflection and consultation with intimate friends in the Church, that I have arrived at the conclusion expressed in this petition. A longer delay might defeat a voyage to Europe altogether, and recent events and present indications seem to justify my conviction, that this is the best time for making the desired change.

My interest in the Church and Seminary will, of course, suffer no decline by my temporary removal. The ties of friendship and brotherhood, which unite me with the ministry and the laity of the German Reformed Church, are too strong and too sacred to be broken by time or space. I am flesh of your flesh, and bone of your bones. Whether in Europe or America, in whatever position Providence may place me, I shall consider it my duty and privilege to labor, to the best of my ability, for the welfare of our Reformed Church and the kingdom of our common Lord and Master, to whom " we belong with body and soul, in life and in death," now and forever.

With Christian regards and affection,
I remain your obedient servant and brother,
PHILIP SCHAFF [22]

Theological Seminary, Mercersburg, Pa., Sep. 21st, 1863.

To this the Committee appointed by Synod replied as follows:

" The committee to whom was referred the letter of Dr. Schaff, asking leave of absence from the Seminary for two years, and requesting Synod to make immediate arrangements for the temporary occupancy of his place, respectfully submit the following report:

" Your committee are somewhat at a loss to determine the action Synod ought to take in the case. The interests involved in it are of no ordinary character. The temporary withdrawal of Dr. Schaff from the chair which he has so ably and acceptably filled for a score of years, will, in the estimation of your committee, be more or less damaging to our School of the Prophets and the general interests of the Church. And yet we know not how Synod can refuse to grant the request. The educational interests of his family, a desire to visit once more his fatherland, the completion of certain literary works, and the hope that after an absence of two years, he would return to the Seminary with ' fresh health and vigor,' are prominent among the reasons urged by Dr. Schaff, in favor of his request.

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[22] Quoted in Proceedings of the Carlisle Synod, October, 1863.

" In view of all the circumstances of the case, your committee recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

" *Resolved,* That the request of Dr. Schaff be granted, only, however, with the understanding that, at the expiration of the time specified—should his life be spared—he return to the chair which he temporarily vacates.

" *Resolved,* That he (Dr. Schaff) be and he is thereby requested to remain at Mercersburg until Trinity Sunday, unless arrangements necessary to the successful carrying on of the Seminary are completed prior to that time.

" *Resolved,* That the Board of Trustees be instructed to allow Dr. Schaff, the use of so much of the house now occupied by him, or of the Seminary building, as may be necessary for the accommodation of his library and furniture during his absence.

" *Resolved,* That, in order to lay before the Church the reasons of Synod's action, and in simple justice to Dr. Schaff, his letter to Synod be entered in its Minutes.

" *Resolved,* That the Board of Visitors be requested to secure, if possible, the services of the Rev. Dr. J. W. Nevin, during the absence of Dr. Schaff, and in case his services cannot be secured, to make the best possible arrangements to fill temporarily Dr. Schaff's place.

" Respectfully submitted,
" GEO W. AUGHINBAUGH, *Chairman* "[23]

The Board filled the temporary vacancy caused by the absence of Dr. Schaff by the appointment of Dr. E. E. Higbee of Pittsburgh, who entered upon his duties in the Seminary in May 1864. At the expiration of Dr. Schaff's two years of absence, the Synod of 1865 received two letters of resignation from him—one dated New York, April 27, 1865, the other from Bonn, Prussia, September 16, 1865. Synod accepted Dr. Schaff's resignation to take effect at the time designated by himself—on the last of December, 1865. At the same meeting of Synod, Dr. E. E. Higbee was by acclamation unanimously elected to the chair he had temporarily held in the Theological Seminary, of Church History and Biblical Literature.

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[23] *Ibid.*

Meanwhile the Seminary seemed to be prospering. The number of students was twenty-nine in 1865. The tercentenary offerings of the Church added over $11,000 to the third professor's fund and $1762 to the Theological Library.

The following account of the closing exercises and Commencement of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg in the spring of 1865 may be of interest:

> The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary met at Mercersburg, on Monday evening, the 15th ult., to attend the examinations, and the closing exercises in the Seminary.
>
> There were present, Rev. B. Bausman, J. W. Santee, P. S. Davis, F. A. Rupley, I. G. Brown, W. E. Krebs, and T. G. Apple. Examinations were held on Tuesday, in the morning by Dr. Harbaugh two classes in Dogmatics, and one class in Hebrew, by Mr. Kerschner, theological tutor, and in the afternoon two classes in Church History, by Prof. Higbee, and one in Hebrew, by Tutor Kerschner.
>
> The number of students in the Seminary during the past year is twenty-nine.
>
> The regular Theological Commencement, which the Board and Faculty have been laboring for several years to establish, was inaugurated on Tuesday evening. The following was the order of exercises:
>
> Music.—Introductory
> Prayer, by Prof. E. E. Higbee
> Historical Essay, by T. F. Stauffer, Greensburg, Pa.
> Subject—*The Council at Nicaea*
> Music.
> Theological Oration, by D. W. Gerhard, Lancaster, Pa.
> Subject—*The First and Second Adam.*
> Music.

Seminary Address, by Charles G. Fisher, Philadelphia, Pa.
Music.
Closing Address, by Dr. H. Harbaugh.
Music.—*Gloria Patri.*
Benediction.

The Commencement exercises were held in the German Reformed Church. A large and appreciative audience were in attendance.[24]

In 1866 the Seminary had twenty-three students, of whom four went to Europe with a view of prosecuting their studies in German universities at their own expense. The finances of the Seminary were improving. After the close of the Civil War the salary of Dr. Harbaugh was raised to $1500; Dr. Higbee received $1300; Jacob Kershner, the tutor, received $600. Repairs to Dr. Higbee's house, which involved the taking out of the front and rebuilding of North Cottage, cost $2200. Repairs were also made to South Cottage, where Dr. Harbaugh lived, and to the Seminary Building. A thousand dollars was set aside for the patristic section of the library of the Seminary.

The death of Dr. Harbaugh in 1867 was a severe blow to the hopes of the Seminary and the Church. It threw the burden of the work of the Seminary on Dr. Higbee and Prof. Jacob Kershner. Then the Synod meeting at Hagerstown in 1868 elected Dr. E. V. Gerhart to succeed Dr. Higbee as Professor of Didactic and Practical Theology in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg.

Dr. Gerhart's election to the Seminary was the occasion of considerable controversy in the Synod, but it brought to the institution at Mercersburg a man who was a tower of strength. He was indeed a worthy and logical successor of Rauch, Nevin, Wolff, and Harbaugh.

Born in 1817, the same year in which Harbaugh was born, Emanuel Vogel Gerhart, a son of Rev. Isaac and Sarah Gerhart, entered the Classical Institution at York as a boy of sixteen, when Dr. Rauch was the Principal of that school. He was among the eighteen students who brought the school to Mercersburg in 1836. He was a graduate of Marshall College in 1838 and completed his studies in the Seminary in 1841. He was the beloved student of Dr. Rauch, and one of the founders of the Diagnothian Literary Society. For ten years after leaving the Seminary he served the Church as minister at Gettysburg and as home missionary in Cincinnati, Ohio. Then he was elected President of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, and Professor of Systematic Theology in the Western Seminary of the Reformed Church. He was called east in 1855 to become the first President of Franklin and Marshall College, after the removal of Marshall College to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. We will let a letter written by Dr. Gerhart himself tell the story of his work there:

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[24] *Reformed Church Messenger,* May 31, 1865.

"Accepting the call, I removed to Lancaster in April, 1855. Professors and students gave me a formal reception in the building of Franklin College, situated on Lime Street near Orange. In this building the professors met their classes until a college edifice, now occupied by the institution, was ready for use. Like the rest of the professors I had to reside in the city, as there were no accommodations on the campus. All the students boarded in private houses. This state of things continued until Harbaugh Hall was erected in 1870. The prospects of the institution were never better than in 1861 when the Civil War began; yet the institution was not seriously affected until after the government ordered the first draft. The largest class graduated in 1862, numbering 28. After that the accessions became less and less until after the War had closed; graduates in 1863—18; in 1864—14; in 1865—11; in 1866—6. Nevertheless the average number of graduates during the eleven years I continued in office was sixteen and two-elevenths.

"In 1866 I was superseded. Dr. Nevin resumed the office of President. I retained the professorship of Mental and Moral Philosophy and became Vice-President of the faculty. In this two-fold capacity I continued to serve the college two years longer, until 1868 when I tendered my resignation in order to accept the chair of Systematic Theology in the Theological Seminary then located at Mercersburg." [25]

At the inauguration of Dr. Gerhart on October 26, 1868, Dr. John W. Nevin delivered the opening address. Dr. Gerhart's subject for the inaugural was "The Historical Element in Theology." While living in Mercersburg, Dr. Gerhart occupied South Cottage. For three years he taught in the Seminary there; then, when the institution was removed to Lancaster in 1871, Dr. Gerhart came with it. He occupied the chair of Systematic Theology until his death in 1904. In a long life devoted to the service of young men and of the Church, Dr. Gerhart never neglected his scholarly ideals. He wrote numerous articles and was the author of a masterly system of theology published in two volumes under the title *Christian Institutes.* He became one of the leading American theologians of the nineteenth century and was idolized by hundreds of his students.

One of his successors, who was also one of his former students, has beautifully characterized the life and spirit of this master teacher of men: "Dr. Gerhart, as a man, would pass every test of sterling Christian manhood—physical, mental, moral and spiritual. He combined, as few men, the simple piety of a child with the insight of a philosopher and the learning of a scholar. He was a great scholar without being a recluse; a philosopher without arrogance; a Christian without guile." [26]

Dr. Gerhart always was in favor of the removal of the Seminary. This question had been agitated by the Church from the time Marshall College went to Lancaster in 1853. Immediately after the Civil War the question began to be seriously discussed in the church papers and the synods. It was an age of controversy, and for a time the question threatened to provoke considerable hostility. By 1869 the forces in favor of removal became aggressive. The Lancaster institutions started out to raise $200,000. They had in mind the creation of a university. Dr. John W. Nevin wrote a series of thirteen articles on the subject, advocating the removal of the Seminary and the concentration of the educational institutions of the church in Lancaster. There was a strong feeling at the time that this centralization of institutions should take place in Mercersburg, but the ultimate outcome was that the Seminary joined forces with Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster in 1871 and occupied the college buildings there until 1893, when the present handsome Seminary building was erected.

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[25] Original in "Memorial Portfolio of Marshall and Franklin and Marshall Colleges" in Marshall College MSS., Franklin and Marshall College.

[26] Herman, Theodore F. "The Theology of the Rev. Prof. Emanuel Vogel Gerhart, D.D., LL.D." in *Addresses on the Life and the Theology of . . . Harbaugh . . . and Gerhart. . . .* Philadelphia, 1918, p. 12.

The following account of the removal of the Seminary has historic value:

"Very quietly the Theological Seminary has removed at last to Lancaster, Pa. For more than a generation of human existence, it has been located in the quiet village of Mercersburg, Pa. It has had a most interesting history there for thirty-five years. The vast theological movements which have so deeply stirred the mind of the Reformed Church, and challenged thought in American Protestantism generally, belong to the Mercersburg period of the Seminary's life. The very name of the School in philosophy and theology, therefore, belongs to its late home. How will it be known hereafter?

"In strict obedience to the plain resolution of last year's Synod, the removal was duly carried into effect; and on the 13th inst., the new session was formally opened by Rev. Dr. Gerhart, the only Professor of that institution now regularly in office. There seems to have been no parade or demonstration to mark the significant historical event. The people of Mercersburg hardly knew that the Theological Seminary was gone; and the people of Lancaster, probably, have very few of them realized that the newly arrived institution is now actually located amongst them.

"No formal report of the occasion has yet been made public. But lest the matter should be left to pass unnoticed altogether, we make this brief record of the fact. We understand that all the classes have been regularly formed, with an encouraging number of students. To make up for the teaching force of the vacant professorships, the services of the Rev. Dr. J. W. Nevin, the Rev. Dr. T. G. Appel, and the Rev. F. A. Gast, have been temporarily secured. It will probably require some time for the Theological Seminary to settle down into its wonted regular mode of life; but with the additional action of Synod needed, in filling the several chairs, and providing fully for the wants of this worthy and favorite institution of the Church, it may enter anew upon a prosperous career of influence and usefulness." [27]

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[27] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 27, 1871.

CHAPTER XIX

Mercersburg College Under Dr. Thomas G. Apple

AMONG the many and varied educational institutions at Mercersburg in the past one hundred years, second to none in importance and influence during its comparatively brief career was Mercersburg College, founded in 1865 and closed in 1879. Though in existence for only fourteen years, it made a distinct place for itself in the educational history of the church and of the state.

Mercersburg College owed its existence largely to Dr. Henry Harbaugh. When he came back to Mercersburg as a theological professor on Seminary Hill, sat on his front porch and looked half a mile across the village to an eminence where the buildings on the grounds of Marshall College were still standing, he conceived the idea of starting a new college to take the place of old Marshall College.

The matter was brought officially to the attention of the Mercersburg Classis by a letter from Mr. Charles G. Fisher, who was Principal of Marshall Collegiate Institute, conducted by a group of private citizens who had purchased the property of old Marshall College. It now consisted of five acres of land and three buildings: the preparatory edifice, the dwelling house formerly occupied by Dr. Nevin, and the Diagnothian Hall.

A committee of Classis recommended the following action:

" '*Resolved,* That it is in every way desirable that the Marshall Collegiate Institute be brought under the care and control of the Mercersburg Classis.

" '*Resolved,* That a committee, consisting of three ministers and two elders, be appointed to obtain information, and devise a plan to purchase the property, and carry forward the Institution under the care of this Classis, privilege being given this committee to report as soon as possible to a special meeting of Classis to be called for this purpose if necessary.

" '*Resolved,* That the Committee be instructed to attend the meeting of the Maryland Classis, soon to convene, asking said Classis to join with us in this enterprise.'

" The Committee called for in the second resolution consisted of Rev. T. G. Apple, P. S. Davis, E. E. Higbee, and Elders A. B. Wingerd and Geo. Cook.

" This Committee subsequently reported to the special meeting of the Classis held in Bedford, Pa., August 1st, as follows, viz:

" The Committee appointed by the Mercersburg Classis in Shippensburg, May last, to make inquiry and devise some plan by which the Marshall Collegiate Institute might be brought under the care of this Classis, respectfully report:

" ' The Committee proceeded to Mercersburg, and held a conference with the stockholders. The property, consisting of the Preparatory building, one hall, one private residence, and five acres of land, was offered for $6,000.00. At the same time it was intimated that it might perhaps be sold for something less.' "[1]

Then the Mercersburg Classis authorized the Committee to purchase the property and proceeded to elect a Board of Control consisting of nine members who should have the entire management of the Institute in its religious, literary, and financial interests. The election resulted in the choice of the following individuals as the Board of Control: Rev. T. G. Apple, P. S. Davis, E. E. Higbee, H. Harbaugh, W. E. Krebs, C. Cort, and Elders A. B. Wingerd, David Zeller, and Jacob Reed. Thus the old Marshall College property reverted once more to the church.

The members of the Board of Control at once issued a circular to the public in which they announced the purchase of the property and the organization of an institution under the title of "The Mercersburg College." It began as a sort of junior college. The course of studies covered a preparatory period of three years and two years of college work, that is, to the end of the sophomore year. The original faculty, as stated in this circular, were the Rev. G. Aughinbaugh, Professor of Languages, and the Rev. Thomas G. Apple, Professor of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

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[1] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 6, 1865.

The formal opening of Mercersburg College took place on September 27, 1865. The event is recorded as follows: "This Institution was formally opened by appropriate ceremonies held in the German Reformed Church at Mercersburg, on Tuesday evening, the 27th ult., in the presence of the Board of Trustees, a number of strangers from a distance, and citizens of Mercersburg. Prayer was offered by Rev. T. G. Apple, after which Rev. I. G. Brown, in behalf of Mercersburg Classis, made a statement of its actions and purposes in establishing this Institution. This was followed with an address by Dr. H. Harbaugh in behalf of the Board of Trustees. The interesting services were concluded with prayer, led by Rev. P. S. Davis. The exercises were introduced, interspersed, and concluded by classic and well executed music by a choir from the Theological Seminary. The lively event appeared very much like a return of old times in Mercersburg, and in the minds of many present called to mind occasions of a similar festive and literary character in the days of Marshall College." [2]

At the end of the first session of Mercersburg College, the following announcement appeared: "This Institution is now in successful operation at Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa. Its second session opens on the 22nd of January, 1866. Students should, if possible, be present on Saturday, the 20th. Terms: Boarding, tuition, room, washing, fuel and light, $200 per year. Positively no extras will be charged, except for instruction in instrumental music.

"The Board of Regents have made arrangements to accommodate all who may desire to enjoy the benefits of this

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[2] *Ibid.*, October 4, 1865.

Institution. There were 65 students present the first session. For particulars, apply to the principal teacher,

REV. THOMAS G. APPLE
or to Dr. H. HARBAUGH,
President of the Board"[3]

A liberal charter was obtained from the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, October 30, 1865, "for the education of youth in the learned languages, the arts, the sciences, and useful literature." The Board of Control was changed into the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College. Rev. Dr. Harbaugh was President of the Board until his death in December 1867, when he was succeeded by Dr. Thomas G. Apple. Dr. E. E. Higbee was chosen Secretary of the Board.

The first annual Catalogue of Mercersburg College contains the following facts of interest. The college motto was "Via Crucis, Via Lucis." The instructors were Rev. Thomas G. Apple, A.M., Principal; John B. Kieffer, A.B., Professor of Ancient Languages; Miss Annie M. Beall, Teacher in English Branches; Miss M. Louisa Zeller, Teacher of Instrumental Music; and Miss Bessie Simpson, Assistant Teacher. A literary society was established among the students bearing the name of Washington Irving. A regular baseball club was announced as follows: "The Club is governed by proper rules so that in their amusements the members are preserved from all rudeness and immorality." A Female Department was connected with the Institution. Announcement was made that experience "thus far in this Institution seems to favor the view that the education of both sexes together, under proper regulations, tends to cultivate good manners and is favorable to both."

The college was well patronized from the beginning, having one hundred students, sixty-seven males and thirty-three females. The list follows:

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[3] *Ibid.*, January 3, 1866.

MALES

W. C. Agnew, Mercersburg, Pa.
Thomas J. Allin, Mercersburg, Pa.
John W. Apple, Mercersburg, Pa.
John Bosserman, Franklin County, Pa.
John C. Bowman, Chambersburg, Pa.
S. Oswald Bradley, Mercersburg, Pa.
M. Henry Bradley, Mercersburg, Pa.
Wilson N. Brown, Milton, Pa.
J. W. Burk, Greencastle, Pa.
Clinton Cushwa, Clearspring, Md.
Harry N. Davis, Boonsboro, Md.
D. N. Dittmar, Pattonville, Pa.
F. Forman, Franklin County, Pa.
F. S. Fouse, James Creek, Pa.
Charles H. Fallon, Mercersburg, Pa.
John W. Ginrich, Hummelstown, Pa.
H. A. Gordon, Waynesboro, Pa.
M. J. Haderman, New Enterprise, Pa.
E. P. Harnish, Alexandria, Pa.
Theodore A. Harbaugh, Waynesboro, Pa.
Wilson L. Harbaugh, Mercersburg, Pa.
B. F. Herr, Clearspring, Md.
A. H. Hoffeditz, Mercersburg, Pa.
Charles T. Hoffeditz, Mercersburg, Pa.
William Hammond, Benevola, Md.
M. P. Heckerman, Bedford, Pa.
William Heyser, Chambersburg, Pa.
Ephraim Hill, Kutztown, Pa.
Edward R. Imbrie, Greencastle, Pa.
Oliver M. Keyser, Welsh Run, Pa.
W. F. Lichliter, Woodstock, Va.
J. S. Motter, Emmittsburg, Md.
F. F. McComas, Hagerstown, Md.
E. M. McComas, Hagerstown, Md.
Charles Rench McKinstry, Mercersburg, Pa.
Scott McAfee, Mercersburg, Pa.
M. Murray, Mercersburg, Pa.

D. Rench Miller, Greencastle, Pa.
Joseph E. Noble, Waterside, Pa.
Milton Negley, Mercersburg, Pa.
Walter Negley, Hagerstown, Md.
P. Plasterer, Shippensburg, Pa.
Joseph A. Reed, Bedford, Pa.
J. Frank Reed, Bedford, Pa.
Ed. H. Reed, Bedford, Pa.
C. Reed, Huntington, Pa.
John T. Rhea, Mercersburg, Pa.
J. B. Russel, Waynesboro, Pa.
S. Rodgers, Mercersburg, Pa.
J. Rider, Franklin County, Pa.
G. Rider, Franklin County, Pa.
A. K. Seibert, Clearspring, Md.
H. Clay Sharpless, Williamsport, Md.
B. M. Shields, Franklin County, Pa.
John Steiger, Mercersburg, Pa.
John B. Thomas, Adamstown, Md.
Samuel G. Uhland, East Hanover, Pa.
William Unger, Mercersburg, Pa.
John Wintrode, Markelsburg, Pa.
C. Zellar Wingerd, Greencastle, Pa.
Calvin W. Winger, Clay Lick, Pa.
L. K. Wilson, Greencastle, Pa.
David M. Whitmore, Mt. Crawford, Va.
E. Walt, Mercersburg, Pa.
A. Wegley, Mercersburg, Pa.
Samuel Young, Waynesboro, Pa.

FEMALES

Sue B. Anderson, Hedgeville, Va.
Annie M. Apple, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lizzie G. Apple, Mercersburg, Pa.
A. C. Barndollar, Fort Littleton, Pa.
Carrie Brewer, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lizzie B. Brown, Mercersburg, Pa.
Keren N. Bradley, Mercersburg, Pa.

Emma B. Ferguson, Mercersburg, Pa.
A. Margaret Ferguson, Mercersburg, Pa.
Maggie Harbaugh, Mercersburg, Pa.
M. Kate Hays, Mercersburg, Pa.
Maud Imbrie, Greencastle, Pa.
Lizzie Jordan, Mercersburg, Pa.
Katie Cromer, Mercersburg, Pa.
Sarah Little, Ohio.
Lizzie Lowe, Mercersburg, Pa.
Alice Lowe, Mercersburg, Pa.
Louisa Leidy, Mercersburg, Pa.
Seraphine Lauderbaugh, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lillie McNaughton, Mercersburg, Pa.
Rose McNaughton, Mercersburg, Pa.
Minnie McKinstry, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lillie McDowell, Mercersburg, Pa.
Ada Murray, Mercersburg, Pa.
Jennie McFarland, Mercersburg, Pa.
Mary McFarland, Mercersburg, Pa.
Mary Negley, Mercersburg, Pa.
Lizzie Shirts, Mercersburg, Pa.
Bessie Simpson, Mercersburg, Pa.
Anna Shufford, Boonsboro, Md.
Jennie Shrader, Mercersburg, Pa.
Nellie K. Shannon, Markelsburg, Pa.
Flora Wintrode, Markelsburg, Pa.[4]

During the second year of Mercersburg College, the enrollment had increased to 133, and there had been added to the teaching force Christian Kessler, Teacher of German, and Miss Marietta Kershner, Teacher of Instrumental Music. Announcement was also made in the Catalogue of 1867 that there were now two literary societies, bearing the names respectively of Washington Irving Literary Society and Marshall Literary Society. "The Marshall Society celebrated its first anniversary at the close of the last session, and the Washington Irving will celebrate its second anniversary at the close of the present session, June 14th, 1867 in the college hall." [5]

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[4] *First Annual Catalogue of Mercersburg College, 1865–66.*

By this time, too, a college library had been established, a Seminary Chapel congregation had been organized, and a public lecture system had been instituted.

The catalogue of 1868 makes note of the fact that assistance was being rendered in the Collegiate Department by Dr. Higbee and Prof. Kershner of the Theological Seminary. The name of Dr. Thomas G. Apple now appeared as President of the institution, and that of Miss Mary Laubaugh as Teacher of Music. In 1868, the Board of Regents made provision for the appointment of two additional professors. This was made necessary not only by the increase in the number of students, but because each year an additional higher class was added, which meant that the first graduating class would receive its diplomas in 1871.

In the list of the first students of Mercersburg College appears the name of John W. Apple, the eldest son of the President of the College, who afterwards became a distinguished lawyer, and a man of fine literary tastes. He incorporated the spirit of Mercersburg in a novel entitled "*The Light of Parnell.*" He has given us the best picture in existence of conditions in Mercersburg College when he was a student there.

In describing his father as President of the College, John W. Apple wrote:

"Editing the *Review,* teaching Dogmatics, and at the same time filling his position as President of the College with all its details, his hands were kept full as may be imagined. But he had splendid health, worked rapidly, and never seemed to tire. He seemed to work all day and all night too. He lived in the cottage south of the Preparatory Building, and the school was conducted in the old Diagnothian Hall, sometimes called 'First Hall.' In this hall he occupied the main room, teaching all day long from eight o'clock in the morning until four or five and often later in the evening, with a slight intermission at noon. He opened the school in the morning with worship at which he usually started the hymn-tunes himself. He had entire charge of the schedule of the day and assembled and dismissed all classes, pulling a knob at his feet on the platform and ringing the bell in the class rooms below. I think at one time or another he taught every branch in the curriculum.

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[5] *Second Annual Catalogue of Mercersburg College, 1867.*

" He also preached in his turn in the chapel, looked after the financial and business interests of the institution, heard all complaints (even about boarding) and administered all discipline. No wonder every night saw his light burning late in his study window.

" The institution was primitive in all its appointments and it seemed audacious to call it a College. But if Mark Hopkins, a pupil, and a log constituted a University, why should it not aspire to become a college? There were three teachers to begin with: Dr. Apple, Professor Kieffer and Miss Anna Beall. But the teaching force was soon increased and Seminary Professors and theological students lent a helping hand. Dr. Higbee, Prof. Jacob Kershner and Nathan C. Schaeffer (now [1912] State Superintendent) taught classes in the Seminary Building. The students marched backwards and forwards through the village in going to and from their recitations in this building; and on Sundays marched over to attend services in the Seminary Chapel. And what sermons were preached in that little chapel! One Sunday it would be the poetic and original Harbaugh; another Sunday, the scholarly Higbee, another Sunday Dr. Apple (who, it was said, had the philosophical temperament); and at another time Jacob Kershner. Prof. Kieffer could seldom be induced to preach, as he always said he had enough to do with teaching.

" The gymnasium consisted of one lone, solitary horizontal bar. The students chopped their own wood and carried it to their rooms. How merrily rang the campus with the sound of the wood choppers! There was music in Prof. Kieffer's axe as he made the chips fly. Huge piles of hickory wood filled the campus, and it was fine sport to pull the logs out from under the snow and chop them up, and in the evening watch them burn while the joke went 'round, and old Boreas rocked the building to its foundations.

"The students made their beds and swept their rooms; and some even boarded themselves, their chief diet being corn pone and syrup. But they accomplished wonders in their studies. There were no distractions. There was nothing to do but study. There was little to talk about but Greek roots and mathematics and science and philosophy; and the institution soon took high rank for scholarship. Discipline was not so much a matter of rule as of honor." [6]

Dr. Thomas Gilmore Apple, the first President of Mercersburg College, was the seventh son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Gilmore) Apple (or Appel). He was born near Easton, Pennsylvania on November 14, 1829. In the Marshall College Catalogue of 1848 he is listed as a sophomore, rooming at White Hall; in the junior year he roomed at Clio Hall, and in 1850 he is mentioned as being among the fourteen graduates of the college and valedictorian of his class. In his address he emphasized the power and abiding value of ideas.

After teaching at Elmwood Institute for Boys at Norristown, Pennsylvania, he studied theology and was ordained as a minister of the Reformed Church in the United States in 1852. On August 27, 1851, he married Emma Matilda Miller of Easton, by whom he had eleven children. He served as pastor at Riegelsville, Greensburg, Irwin, Mechanicsburg and Greencastle. It was while serving the pastorate at Greencastle that he developed a delightful social fellowship with the men who were in charge of the educational institutions at Mercersburg. It was while at Greencastle, too, that Dr. Apple experienced the excitement occasioned by Lee's invasion of southern Pennsylvania. Greencastle was on the high road of the invading army on its way to Gettysburg. When Dr. Harbaugh and Dr. Higbee urged the establishment of Mercersburg College it was quite natural that they would want Dr. Apple associated with them in Mercersburg.

We have already seen the nature of the work that Dr. Apple was called upon to do as the first president of the newly established institution. Just at the time that the first class of Mercersburg College was about to graduate, the Theological Seminary was moved from Mercersburg to Lancaster, and a complete readjustment of all the institutions rapidly followed. Two statements written by Dr. Apple tell the story of his academic career in his own words:

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[6] Apple, John W. "Thomas Gilmore Apple," in *Old Mercersburg*, p. 112.

(1)

Lancaster, Pa., June 13th, 1887.

My regular connection with the Theological Seminary as professor began in November 1871. After Dr. Harbaugh's death in Mercersburg at the close of the year 1867 I filled his chair temporarily in the Seminary by appointment of the Board of Visitors until Dr. Gerhart entered upon his duties. In 1871 I was elected to the chair of church history and New Testament exegesis and in November of said year I removed from Mercersburg to Lancaster and entered upon my duties. I was installed in office by a committee of Synod, in the First Reformed Church, Lancaster, Pa., upon which occasion I delivered an inaugural address on Christianity and the Church, which was published in the *Reformed Quarterly Review.* Since then I have been attending to the duties of my office in the Seminary.

THOS. G. APPLE.

(2)

Lancaster, Pa., June 13th, 1887.

In June 1887 I was elected president of Franklin and Marshall College. During the preceding year, while Prof. W. M. Nevin was acting president, I had charge of a portion of the president's department, teaching Aesthetics to the Junior class, and Ethics to the Senior class. In the fall of 1877 I commenced my duties regularly as President of the institution, teaching Philosophy of History, Anthropology, Psychology, Aesthetics, and Ethics, besides presiding in all meetings of the faculty and having charge generally of the institution in the capacity of President. I cannot give here even a sketch of the important events during this period in the College. I have served without any stipulated salary, but received several hundred dollars a year voted to me by the Board.

THOS. G. APPLE.[7]

From these letters it will be seen that Dr. Apple was elected Professor of Church History and New Testament Exegesis in the Theological Seminary on June 27, 1871, the year in which the Seminary moved from Mercersburg to Lancaster. The vacancy had been created by the resignation of Dr. Higbee from the Seminary. He preferred to stay in Mercersburg and was chosen as the second President of Mercersburg College. Thus we see that Dr. Apple and Dr. Higbee practically exchanged positions. The President of Mercersburg College became Professor of Church History in the Seminary at Lancaster, while the Professor of Church History became President of Mercersburg College.

One of the teachers in Mercersburg under Dr. Apple was Dr. John B. Kieffer, who had served as Professor of Ancient Languages in Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, before coming to Mercersburg, and who later came to Franklin and Marshall College and for many years occupied the chair of Greek. It will also be noted that Dr. George F. Mull, of Pennsgrove, Pennsylvania, entered Mercersburg College in 1866, attended six years, later was instructor in Latin and Greek in the college, then took a graduate course in theology there, attended the University of Leipzig, Germany, was made Professor of Latin at Mercersburg in 1876, and finally served as Professor of Latin in Franklin and Marshall College for more than forty years.

Shortly before his death in December 1935 Dr. Mull wrote the article on Dr. Thomas Gilmore Apple for the *Dictionary of American Biography*, in which he summed up the life and characteristics of his former teacher as follows:

"From 1868 to the end of his life Dr. Apple was editor of the *Mercersburg Review*, later changed in title to the *Reformed Church Quarterly Review* as the organ of the denomination for Christological, historical, and positive theology. In its pages will be found his most important writings, particularly his contributions to the system of thinking which in this country came to be identified with the institutions at Mercersburg and hence was called "Mercersburg theology." He also took an active part in the legislative and executive affairs of the church, and was instrumental in the organization of some and the reorganization of other enterprises which profited by his administrative abilities. He was a member of the committee which framed the *Order of Worship* (1866). He was a leading member of the so-called "Peace Commission" which finally settled the liturgical question upon a satisfactory basis in the form of a *Directory of Worship*, authorized for use in 1887. In the matter of doctrine, he drew a sharp line between religion as a challenge to faith and theology as a science. 'He held firmly to the historic faith of the church, and yet he never refused to accept any new light that was shed upon the old faith by modern critical research.' (*Reformed Church Messenger*, vol. LVI, no. 39.) His writings are marked by clear thinking, intellectual honesty, and lucid expression. He had a constructive mind and contributed much of permanent value to the religious and educational history of his time."

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[7] Both statements were written for and included in Ambrose M. Schmidt's "Memorial Portfolio of Marshall and Franklin and Marshall College."

Another prominent alumnus of this period was Dr. John M. Shick of Pittsburgh, who entered Marshall College in 1868, attended eight years, and later became pastor of the Reformed Church in Washington, D. C., which was regularly attended by Theodore Roosevelt when he was President of the United States, Another student under Dr. Apple was Dr. J. T. Keil of Reno, Nevada, who entered the college in 1869, remained two years, became interested in gold mines and oil wells in Colorado, and later gave the largest subscription to Keil Hall of Mercersburg Academy, in loving memory of his mother, Sarah Salome Keil.

Among the many students of earlier Mercersburg College days, as we have seen, was John W. Apple, Esq., who himself always spoke of the college village as "a pent-up Utica" where a small but famous group of scholars lived and where there is now a boys' school known far and wide. He said of his father, Dr. Thomas G. Apple, " So far as his personal life was concerned, some of the happiest days of his life were spent at Mercersburg. ' That is a very green spot in memory —those Mercersburg days,' he was wont to say."[8]

With the entrance of Dr. Apple upon his duties of Seminary Professor at Lancaster on January 1, 1872, the first stage in the history of Mercersburg College came to an end. With the acceptance of the Presidency of Mercersburg College by Dr. E. E. Higbee in the fall of 1871 the second stage of the life of the institution was begun.

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[8] *Old Mercersburg*, p. 114.

SKETCHED BY DR. E. E. HIGBEE

CHAPTER XX

Dr. Elnathan E. Higbee at Mercersburg

FOLLOWING a series of famous scholars and educators, Mayer, Rauch, Nevin, Schaff, Harbaugh, Gerhart, and Apple—and as brilliant as any of them—came Elnathan Elisha Higbee, who served the Mercersburg institutions from 1864 to 1879, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Superintendent of Public Instruction from 1881 to the time of his death in 1889.

When he came to Mercersburg he was a new and different type, and supplemented the work of his predecessors. He was born near Burlington, Vermont on March 27, 1830, the youngest of ten children. Through his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Baker, he traced relationship to Ethan Allen, of Ticonderoga fame. His father was at one time a member of the Vermont legislature as a representative of the agricultural interests.

At the age of fifteen young Higbee entered the freshman class of the University of Vermont, where he soon became a leader in scholarship and in athletic ability. One who knew him intimately said of him, "Though only sixteen when he taught his first school, he easily outstripped the most active and stalwart of his boys. 'He could run faster, jump higher, knock a ball or kick a foot-ball further, than any of the rest. As a skater he was fleet as the wind, and as alert, nimble, and agile as seems possible to any master of the art.' He was consequently a hero to his pupils on the playground."[1] In later life

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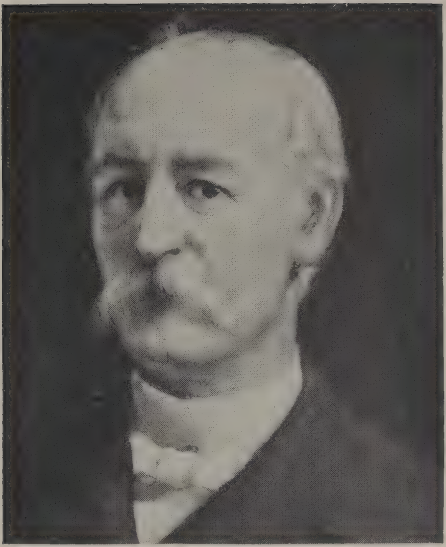
[1] Aughinbaugh, G. W., quoted by D. J. Waller, Jr. in a memorial address before the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association, July 9, 1890. Printed in *Tributes of Loving Memory to Elnathan Elisha Higbee* . . . , Lancaster, 1890, p. 27.



Elnathan E. Higbee, D.D., LL.D.
1864–1880

Thomas G. Apple, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D.
1865–1871

he used to say that he owed as much to the privilege of using the library of the University of Vermont as to any instruction he received, for he was an omnivorous reader of the best literature. He belonged to a college club that had for its object the cultivation of a pure literary taste and the production of original literary compositions.

While he was in college he also taught in the Fourth Street District School of Burlington. On the day of his graduation in 1849 he spoke on "The Relation of the Ideal to the Actual." It is rather remarkable that within a few weeks after his graduation some one sent him a copy of one of Dr. J. W. Nevin's sermons, concerning which he wrote, as a boy of nineteen, the following acknowledgment:

"I am a thousand times obliged to you for sending me Mr. Nevin's profound sermon, for it has taught me at least one good practical lesson—that men are prone to believe that they possess knowledge, when in fact they know nothing. I took the sermon, as I usually take a book, at a leisure moment, and began to calculate that I should have some thirty or more minutes of amusement; but, lo, ere I had finished the first page, I found myself in a new region entirely—a region where I found something more was necessary than to barely apply the knowledge I had learned by merely imitating my teachers. I saw the necessity for some activity of my own, and for the first time did I come to know what was meant by the creative energy of thought. Here I saw that when my mind was passive only, the book was but a meaningless blank, but as soon as by reflection I began to think, the page became one mass of thought. The mist passed away, and truth like a star began to tremble in the clear—not a calm and steady light, for it was too distant for my young and feeble sight.

"The division of the church first made, into 'ideal and actual,' and the argument thereon, would have made me feel more positive in the position I took in my graduating piece; for I blindly hit upon nearly the same train of thought. I attempted to show that in nature there are two characteristics, the informing principle, which is the idea, and the existent form, which is the actual phenomenon. This idea I attempted to show is concrete, containing the essence, means and end, but must of necessity be nothing unless in living union with the form, which union is essentially necessary to a production of life. As Nevin says, in one of his works, 'not *soul or body*, but *soul and body*, is the formula which represents humanity.'"[2]

The young graduate became assistant teacher in an academy at South Woodstock, Vermont, for a short time, then through the influence of a sister he removed to Emmitsburg, Maryland, to take charge of a school which his brother-in-law, the Rev. George W. Aughinbaugh, had organized. It was while assisting in this classical school at Emmitsburg that Dr. Higbee became interested in Mercersburg theology.

Dr. Aughinbaugh in writing about the young Higbee, who came south to teach school, said:

"Though born on New England soil, and brought up under New England influence, Dr. Higbee, when he came to Emmitsburg, was not wholly ignorant of German thought. The President of the University of Vermont was a great admirer of Dr. Rauch, the first President of Marshall College, and had introduced Rauch's Psychology as a textbook."[3]

For a time Dr. Higbee had decided to study law, but his reading, especially of the articles in the *Mercersburg Review*, convinced him that he ought to devote his life to the service of the Gospel and the Church.

He was for a year engaged as tutor in the family of Hon. Joshua Motter of Emmitsburg, one of whose daughters he married in 1856.

In 1852 he was in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, under Nevin and Schaff. After the completion of his course there he taught in the High School at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

For a time he preached in the Congregational Church at Bethel, Vermont. In 1858 he returned to Emmitsburg and served as a supply minister there for a season, when he was called to the First Reformed Church of Tiffin, Ohio, and at the same time filled the chair of Latin and Greek in Heidelberg College. After three years he became pastor of Grace Church, Pittsburgh.

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[2] Quoted by Mull, George F. "Biographical Sketch of Dr. Higbee," *ibid.*, p. 10.

[3] Aughinbaugh, G. W., quoted in *Pennsylvania School Journal*, Higbee Memorial Number, February, 1890.

In 1864, after Dr. Schaff asked for a leave of absence, the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg appointed Dr. Higbee temporarily to the professorship of Church History and New Testament Exegesis. At the age of thirty-four he began his work at Mercersburg, May 3, 1864. In a little over a year, when it was realized that Dr. Schaff would not return to Mercersburg, Dr. Higbee was elected by the Synod to a permanent position in the Seminary.

His friend and colleague, Professor J. B. Kershner, has written the best account of this early period in the life of Dr. Higbee at Mercersburg: " Dr. Higbee came to Mercersburg in 1864 to fill the position of Professor of Church History. There I met him for the first time on my return to that place to assume certain duties in the Seminary. He came in April, I in November of that year. At once, with his characteristic kindness, he received me into the circle of his friends. Although he was then deeply plunged into the massive tomes of the church historians, his duties in the department of New Testament Exegesis led him into fields of study adjacent with my own.

" It seemed to me that he had always been a master of the Latin language. I see him yet, poring over those stout Migne volumes of the Fathers, over the Magdeburg Centuries, and especially over the mighty Hospinian. Like Iphigenia seeking the land of the Greeks with all her soul, he was always pressing on in his mastering of Hellenic literature. He had in the very depths of his soul an impulse to thoroughness. The sparsely occupied Seminary building itself, the halls at the south end of the town, the fine roomy preparatory building, all monuments of the zeal and liberality of a noble band of workers who now rest from their labors, confronted these faithful and earnest men. The thought powerfully seized them that these buildings might be refilled; that these long corridors might echo the footsteps of academic youth; that these toil-erected structures might be saved from decay, and the work of the pious dead might be rescued from oblivion. Thus Mercersburg College was founded, and Rev. Thomas G. Apple, then pastor at Greencastle, now the venerable and beloved Coryphaeus of the institutions at Lancaster, was called to preside over its destinies. The teaching force of the Seminary assisted him, as their time allowed or their inclination prompted. Dr. Higbee was now incessant in labors, tireless in his efforts." [4]

The intellectual qualities of Dr. Higbee as a teacher in the Theological Seminary were of an unusually high order. His students were few in number but they were choice spirits and he gave them his best. Dr. J. Spangler Kieffer, one of his pupils in the Theological Seminary, said, "The most immediately conspicious thing in Dr. Higbee was his intellectual brilliance. The special characteristic of his intellect was the extraordinary wakefulness and attentiveness of it; its alertness and eagerness; its sensitiveness and responsiveness; the lightning-like rapidity of its action. This intellectual eagerness was not restricted to any one particular form or department of truth. He was open for the reception of all truth. He took a keen interest in everything, considering every species of truth to be high and sacred. Truth mathematical, truth physical, truth poetical, truth philosophical and theological, truth moral and spiritual, all appealed to him. Dr. Higbee taught us the lession of an open, eager, intent, hospitable mind always inquiring and always learning. He was a true scholar, not merely a man of information—'an awakener of slumbering souls.' Whatever he came in contact with he vivified; whatever he did he did intensely, energetically, passionately. He knew how to toil terribly." [5]

In a paper read before the National Council of the National Educational Association, meeting at Saint Paul, Minnesota, July 8, 1890, Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer said that "the lectures of Dr. Higbee were a well-spring of inspiration for his students. They abounded not only in all kinds of learning, but also in seed-thoughts that afterwards sprouted and grew into sermons. Daily the students came away from him with new impulses to study and investigation."[6] Subsequent study abroad convinced Dr. Schaeffer that the Universities of Berlin, Leipzig, and Tübingen, whilst they could boast of more thorough specialists, did not possess Dr. Higbee's superior as a lecturer and inspirer of young men.

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[4] Kershner, J. B. "Grand Work at Mercersburg." *Tributes of Loving Memory . . . to Higbee,* p. 50.

[5] Kieffer, J. Spangler. Address at Memorial Services to Higbee at Mercersburg, January 16, 1890. *Ibid.,* p. 66.

All the professors and students who were at Mercersburg in the days of Dr. Higbee agree that the outstanding feature of his work there consisted in the sermons that he preached in the college chapel. Brilliant as he was in the classroom, he made even a more vivid impression upon the minds of his students when he spoke in the chapel. One of his students said, "I doubt whether I had ever listened to a sermon from beginning to end until my first Sunday in our college chapel. That morning as I entered the chapel I found myself facing the entire body of students. I was too embarrassed to proceed far, and sat down in the nearest seat, which was almost within reach of Dr. Higbee and his pulpit. The liturgical service was novel and impressive. Then Dr. Higbee began his sermon. I was spellbound—thrilled to my very soul. It was the joy of a soul in the apprehension of truth. Need I say that at every service during all my stay of five years I sat in the same seat nearest the pulpit? I learned that the nearer the fountain, the purer the stream. It has been my privilege since then to hear some of the most famous pulpit orators of our time, both in this country and abroad, but I have never been so moved as hundreds of times in that little chapel at Mercersburg. I think the Doctor was at his best there."[7]

In addition to studying and teaching and preaching, Dr. Higbee was constantly writing articles for the *Reformed Church Review,* of which he was co-editor for a time, and for the *Reformed Church Messenger,* of which he was synodical editor. In addition to occasional addresses, he wrote hymns which have since found their way into the best church hymnals of our time, as for example,

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[6] Addresses and Proceedings of the National Educational Association, St. Paul, Minnesota, 1890.

[7] Mackey, E., "Dr. Arnold at Rugby: Dr. Higbee at Mercersburg . . .": quoted from the *Pennsylvania School Journal* by the *Mercersburg College Monthly,* February–March, 1890.

> "Jesus, o'er the grave victorious,
> Conq'ring death, and conq'ring hell,
> Reign Thou, Thy might all glorious;
> Heav'n and earth Thy triumph swell."

While living at Mercersburg, Dr. Higbee was a member of the committee that prepared a new Hymnal for the Reformed Church. He at once made a thorough study of hymnology and of the theory of the Church Year upon which the whole collection of hymns was to be based. He loved the church and all its high festivals. One of his colleagues has told what all his friends and students well knew, namely that "the Church Year was to Dr. Higbee an idea of unutterable grandeur; above its general level towered the great Christian festivals—Christmas, Easter, the Ascension, and Pentecost—like mountain peaks bathed in eternal glory. As often as those glorious days came round, his imagination was ablaze with the sublime significance of the day. The warmth of devout emotion illuminated also another day of the church year, All-Saints Day. Every Hallowe'en found the chapel congregation in the sanctuary; the hymn which was always used on these occasions was 'Light's above, celestial Salem,' with the old Latin music, so tender, pathetic, and withal so grand."[8]

His imagination was aglow with poetic fire. He was susceptible to all the varying moods of life and satisfied these moods by reading and writing. Dr. William Nevin, who was an appreciative critic of the poetical manuscripts of Dr. Higbee, and whom Dr. Higbee used to call the Charles Lamb of America, said, "In his literary pursuits, Dr. Higbee was as highly delighted in poring over, at times, the simple Idylls of Theocritus as he was, at other times, in partaking in ecstacy of the sublimated strains of Pindar. This disposition of his of passing readily

> *From grave to gay, from lively to severe,*

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[8] Kershner, J. B. *Op. cit.*

afforded me a fair opportunity of observing him while we were warm friends together, though employed in different occupations, long ago at Mercersburg, and latterly, at intervals 'few and far between,' when he was residing occasionally in Lancaster; and especially in the letters which he wrote me at times from different places was his versatile genius to be observed, one of them being written in Latin Sapphics as correct in scansion as are those of Horace, another containing a metrical rendering into English of his own of some one or other of the Idylls of Bion or Theocritus, and again, in another, some lyric effusion of his in 'braid Scotch' after the manner of Burns." [9]

Dr. Higbee would often illustrate his letters with pen-and-ink drawings or sketches, in the style of Thackeray. He would present scenes from the landscape about him, fanciful sketches of rocks and streams, bushes and trees, hunters and dogs, skies and birds, and then write at the bottom of these sketches a short original poem or greeting to a friend. Several of these drawings are used as illustrations in this book.

From the original manuscripts of Dr. Higbee's poems we have selected the following as typical of his productions:

(1)

Forsan et hæc olim meminisse juvabit.

How many years have passed, dear Friend, since we
(I young, and thou renewing youth in age)
In love-knots tied the tender-bladed grass,
Strolling along the banks of Conestoga.
Imaged within, deep mossy dells, and streams
Dashing with foam midst rocks and tangled vines
From mountain sides that blush'd with bloom of laurel.
What rambles had we then through nodding fern
And fragrant birch! How, by the noisy Run,
Amongst the winter-green and mountain pinks,
Watching the crimson-spotted trout, we loiter'd!

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[9] Nevin, William M. "Dr. Higbee Among the Classic Poets." *Tributes of Loving Memory . . . to Higbee,* p. 55.

All this we spake of to relieve the pain
Of exile from this mountain-girded town.
The laurels still are here. Amongst the moss
Th' arbutus wakens every Spring. The brook
Runs murmuring thro' the Gap, and thrush and lark
Welcome the coming sun. But thou art gone,
And wilt not come again. The trees and flow'rs,
The birds and brook, and all the mountain-sweep
And all the vale, from Casey's wooded slope
To Parnell's towering top, now weep and mourn
The lost companionship of him who loved,
And woo'd them with the rhapsodies of song.
For me the glory of the fields has fled,
And all the color faded from the skies;
And all the music of the woods is gone,
And all the sweet light of the summer day;
And sadness broods like night on all the hills.[10]

(2)

[The following lines were sent to Mrs. Helen Motter, Dr. Higbee's venerable mother-in-law, when she was ill.]

OH, SHEPHERD, GUIDE ME

Oh, Shepherd! guide me through the night
To day, and Heaven, and Thee,
And round my pathway let Thy light
In glory shine and make this darkness flee.
Shepherd, guide me through the night
To day, and Heaven, and Thee.

Oh, Shepherd! guide me lest I stray
From Thee, my dearest Lord.
Teach me to labor, help me pray,
And trust the precious promise of Thy word.
Shepherd, guide me through the night
To day, and Heaven, and Thee.

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[10] From the original MS. in the possession of Mrs. T. K. Worthington, Lancaster, Penna.

Oh, Shepherd! guide me till the hour
Of sweet release is come,
When the worn spirit, by Thy power,
From sin and sorrow free shall reach its home.
Shepherd, guide me till the hour
Of sweet release is come.[11]

One of the finest features of his poetry was his explanation of the mood that brought forth the production, usually written as a sort of prelude to the lyric. For example, he writes of a walk in the garden in the evening on an exceedingly warm Sunday, feeling very lonely. Then a little sparrow came into the garden and sang as happily as if no one were absent. To quote Dr. Higbee, " I grew cheerful as I listened. As soon as I reached my study I could not resist the impulse of an ode to that little sparrow. It is hereafter your property. Treat it kindly." Two stanzas of " The Sparrow " follow:

" O thou sweet, cheerful bird!
Why warblest thou this holy eve so long?
What spirit in thy bosom so hath stirred
The spring of rapt'rous song?

* * * *

" Sing on, thou cheerful bird;
Scatter thy notes amid the falling dew,
For now the spring of rapt'rous song is stirred
Within my bosom too." [12]

On another occasion Dr. Higbee tells of himself sitting at a table for a half-hour listening to the monotonous chirp of a cricket underneath the window. He says, " I reckon he has a fine nest there, and is now singing his evening lullaby. Sing on, thou little black many-legged feeder upon dew. Thy song is as lonely as the autumn wind. But it is happiness to thee, and I will not mar thy pleasure. Like a poet, thou seemest to enjoy the melody of thy verse, or, like some pious anchorite in his lonely cell, thou singest thy hymn of praise ere sleep shall hush thy voice with silence. Sing on, I say, for I will not disturb thee nor thy song, but will myself cheer this lonely hour in writing one who loveth thee, I trust, and all things beautiful." Following this prelude he wrote the "Ode to a Cricket:"

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[11] *Tributes of Loving Memory to . . . Higbee,* p. 132.

[12] *Ibid.,* pp. 139–40.

"Sing on, thou hidden songster! for thy voice
Sounds lonely as the sighing autumn wind,
But still in lonely song thou dost rejoice
To speak the burden of thy thoughtful mind.
Pour forth the music of thy tuneful breast,
And in its dying cadence sink to rest.

"Perhaps thy thoughts go backward to the time of spring,
When merrily thou fed'st upon the honeyed dew,
And to thy mem'ry sweet rem'niscence bring
Of other days when underneath the purpling hue
Of vernal eves, thou sang'st a livelier lay,
Nor ceased thy cheerful song till crimson light of day.

"Perhaps the loved companions of those happy hours,
Still cherish'd in the fond affections of thy soul,
Exert upon thy heart, as then, the self-same powers,
And make the tears of song from out thy bosom roll.
In this, I know, thou must be doubly blest,
If past emotions leave an echo in thy breast.

"Thou art like him who listens to thy lovely song,
And strives to cheer his heart with some responsive lay,—
His thoughts go backward to the past, and linger long
Around those scenes where memory still delights to stray;
The loved companions of those happy hours
Exert upon his heart, as then, the self-same pow'rs.

"Sing on, then, hidden songster! for thy voice
Sounds lonely as the sighing autumn wind,
But still in lonely song thou dost rejoice
To speak the burden of thy thoughtful mind;
Pour forth the music of thy tuneful breast,
And in its dying cadence sink to rest." [13]

Among his other numerous original poems were the Ode delivered at the celebration at Chambersburg, July 4, 1876, on the occasion of the one-hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and a poem delivered before the literary societies of the University of Vermont, entitled "Blandina Sleeps in God," which was the epitaph of an early Christian martyr found in the catacombs of Rome.

Dr. Higbee was ever a boy. He loved to associate with boys and to teach boys. He spent his hours of recreation in watching them at their games and play and frequently joining them. His love of the boy is illustrated by two anecdotes told by John W. Apple: "When I first met Dr. Higbee, I was a boy of about eight years of age. He was passing through Greencastle, and stopped off at my father's house, which was in those days a sort of resting-place for preachers and teachers and doctors of divinity on their way to and from Mercersburg.

"I remember yet, I was holding myself somewhat aloof, peeping shyly at the man of whose scholarship even then I had heard a great deal, when to my surprise, the distinguished visitor called me to him, and took me off to a store and bought for me my first pair of skates. Leaving the other preachers who were at the house at the time to settle the questions of theology which they were discussing, he took me off to where there was some ice, and gave me my first lesson in skating. I remember how his eyes twinkled when he saw how happy I was, finally, in being able to strike out for myself. On another visit he gave me my first jack-knife.

" . . . Youth attracted him, but a boy was a fascination. He never passed a boy without noticing him. Every new little face was a new world for him. I have heard it said of him that he often spent his last cent to make some little fellow happy. It seems like something more than an accident that the last person whom he talked with on earth was a boy at a railway station, in whose future plans he showed an interest, though an utter stranger to him.

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[13] *Ibid.*, p. 140.

"At Mercersburg he often went skating with the college boys, and joined them in their excursions to the mountains for chestnuts. On these occasions he was always the life of the party—the woods rang with his laughter over our boyish pranks. The way he could skate, and run, and jump, and play 'shinney' on the ice, was always a marvel to us."[14]

Concerning his athletic prowess one of his students, Dr. E. Mackey, who later became superintendent of schools at Butler, Pennsylvania, said of Dr. Higbee, "Even when he was nearly fifty years old, I have seen him kick a football from his hands *straight over the college cupola*—a feat no student could perform during my college days. The college building was four stories high, and the cupola not more than ten feet wide."[15]

It was this love of the boy and interest in his pursuits which was one of the important factors in the major decision of Dr. Higbee's life. When the Seminary went to Lancaster Dr. Higbee did not go along with it, but decided to stay in Mercersburg and accept the presidency of the college there. This important decision of his life has always reminded his friends of the decision that General Robert E. Lee was called upon to make when his love for Virginia determined the ultimate fate of his life. So the love of Mercersburg and of the little college struggling there between life and death outweighed every other consideration in the mind of Dr. Higbee. There is something heroic and almost tragic in the agony of soul that he must have experienced in making this fateful decision. His son-in-law, Dr. George F. Mull, in a beautiful tribute in loving remembrance of a former teacher whom he idolized, has described this crisis:

[14] Apple, John W. "First Skates, Jack Knife, Homer." *Ibid.*, p. 93.

[15] Mackey, E. *Op. cit.*

"In 1871 there came a crisis in his life, brought on by the consummation of the efforts that had been put forth for some time to secure the removal of the Theological Seminary from Mercersburg to Lancaster. Should he stay at his post and by accompanying the Seminary sever his close, though as yet unofficial, connection with the young and struggling college which lay so near his heart, and which was then about to send forth its first small class of graduates? To understand the terrible ordeal through which he passed requires a knowledge of details and circumstances connected with the inner history of this whole transaction that cannot here be given. We shall, therefore, content ourselves with the following citation from a letter written June 2, 1871:

"'This Commencement has been the severest trial I have yet had in my life. It cost a struggle to follow my convictions of duty and resign my position in the Seminary. . . . But I feel that I have done right, although at a great sacrifice. I can accomplish far more for the Church here than by going to Lancaster, and can labor with far more efficiency. I know very well that by some I shall be called rebellious, and by others impetuous and reckless, and by very few shall I be esteemed as one calmly and at personal sacrifice following the conviction of duty. . . . Position often gives influence and secures reputation and honor. I am not destitute of ambition. I love to be respected by my fellow-laborers in the Church. But the sure road to esteem is *worth some labor and toil.* Here I *shall* labor and study and teach, and pay but little heed to what position I occupy. I have gone into the college to work, not to seek self-honor.'"[16]

Dr. Higbee's acceptance of the presidency of Mercersburg College forms the transition between the first and second stages in the history of that institution. The first annual commencement of the college had been held in June 1871. For six years the institution had been growing before it sent out into the world its first graduating class, consisting of William L. Heyser of Chambersburg and Christian Kessler of Reading, Pennsylvania. The degrees were conferred by Dr. T. G.

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[16] Mull, George F. *Op. cit.*, p. 12.

Apple. On the evening of the same day the Theological Seminary held its last commencement at Mercersburg with a graduating class of eight members. The parting address to the students was delivered by Dr. Higbee. This was his last official act in connection with the Seminary.

In some respects the story of the nine years of Mercersburg College from 1871 to 1880 is a glorious record of the struggles and achievements of a small college. In other respects it is a sorry story of heroic sacrifice, financial disaster, poverty, misunderstanding, and heart-breaking disappointment.

In 1871 Dr. Harbaugh was dead, Dr. Apple had gone to Lancaster, and Dr. Higbee felt as if he were carrying the load alone with very little support or encouragement. He little dreamed that he was walking right into the panic of 1873 which paralyzed Pennsylvania and the nation at large. And yet in these nine years the little college on Seminary Hill graduated sixty-one students, of whom twenty-nine entered the Christian ministry.

The following shows how Mercersburg College obtained possession of the vacated Seminary buildings:

" By the action of the Synod, ordering the removal of the Theological Seminary from Mercersburg to Lancaster, Mercersburg College comes into the occupancy of the Seminary Property. This property consists of a large four-story building, capable of rooming about sixty students, in addition to the accommodation of a steward, who has charge of the boarding —also two excellent professor's houses, in good repair, and about five acres of ground. The Synod, at its last meeting, in Mechanicsburg, Penn., authorized the Board of Trustees of the Seminary to lease this property to the Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of ninety-nine years, at an annual rental of *one dollar per annum*. The property thus coming into the hands of Mercersburg College, with what they now possess, is worth, at a reasonable valuation, about *Forty thousand dollars*." [17]

[17] *Sixth Annual Catalogue of Mercersburg College, 1870–71.*

In 1873 the announcement was made by the faculty of Mercersburg College that they had inaugurated a post-graduate course in connection with the college and had four students under theological instruction. This announcement somewhat complicated matters because the church already had two theological seminaries, one at Lancaster and another at Tiffin, Ohio, and a mission house in Wisconsin. The Synod of the Potomac was organized in Frederick, Maryland, in the spring of 1873, and met in convention at Chambersburg in October of the same year. At that meeting the Board of Education complained of the great want of active ministers, the large number of vacant charges, and the small number preparing for the ministry. Therefore the Board felt constrained and authorized to commence its work in the synod by using the means most available. " They accordingly overtured the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, if within their ability, and without any pecuniary liability to the Synod, to take such action as might inaugurate the work of Theological Instruction to such students as might offer, under the direction and control of this Board. In compliance with this overture the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, in connection with the Faculty of said College—two members of which were formerly Teachers of Theology under the authority of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States—have inaugurated a Post-Graduate Course in connection with Mercersburg College, and have now four students under theological instruction, without any cost to this Board, and these students have instruction and boarding free." [18]

In the following year the Board reported, " David M. Whitmore, George F. Mull, Isaac M. Motter, John M. Schick, Wm. I. Stewart, Anderson J. Whitmore, Henry S. Garner, Bart. R. Carnahan, and John North are pursuing their theological studies at Mercersburg, according to the provisions made by resolution of Synod last year." [19]

[18] Report of the Board of Education to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Chambersburg, October, 1873.

[19] Report of the Board of Education to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Hanover, October, 1874.

In 1876 the Board reported that "Messrs. G. F. Mull, W. I. Stewart, I. M. Motter, J. M. Schick, and A. J. Whitmore, having completed the full three years' course of theological instruction in the post-graduate department of Mercersburg College, were severally licensed last May to preach the gospel. All these young men excepting Mr. Mull, who is in Germany, engaged in still further prosecuting his studies, have been ordained to the gospel ministry and are actively engaged in the pastoral work within the bounds of the Potomac Synod." The Board further stated that four of its young men were pursuing their theological studies in Lancaster and ten were receiving similar instruction in the post-graduate course at Mercersburg. It was also reported that the Board had received $200 from Mrs. Margaret E. S. Hood of Frederick, Maryland for needy students at Mercersburg College.[20]

Meanwhile the Mercersburg Classis, under whose care the college was officially placed, requested the Potomac Synod to take over the institution. In 1877 the following resolution was adopted: "Whereas, Mercersburg College, located at Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, is within the bounds of this Synod, therefore be it Resolved, That the Synod extend its sympathy to the brethren in their good work, and commend the institution to the favorable regard of the membership." [21]

The next year the Mercersburg Classis expressed its willingness to transfer Mercersburg College to the fostering care of the Potomac Synod if, in its judgment, it was prepared to have such an institution under its care.

In 1878 the Potomac Synod took over the care of Mercersburg College, and the following resolutions were adopted:

> Your Committee, to whom was referred the offer of Mercersburg Classis to transfer the care of Mercersburg College to the Synod of the Potomac, beg leave to report:
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> That they have carefully considered the proposition, and have taken occasion to confer with a number of the members

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[20] Report of the Board of Education to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at York, October, 1876.

[21] Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Baltimore, October, 1877.

of this Synod upon the subject, and as the result of these deliberations and consultations feel moved to present the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod accepts the proffer of Mercersburg Classis, and is willing to take Mercersburg College under her fostering care.

Resolved, That this Synod warmly commends said institution to the favor, the patronage, and the liberality of the congregations and members of the Reformed Church.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College be authorized, at their own expense, to place an agent in the field to solicit aid for said institution, and that said agent be most cordially commended to the Christian favor and liberality of all our membership and the friends of education generally.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER
W. C. CREMER
W. A. WILT
WM. J. HENSELL [22]

The inner and the outer life of Mercersburg College during Dr. Higbee's administration were very much out of harmony. The actual scholastic and academic life was delightful and congenial. The financial and material existence of the institution was precarious. As to the inner life, we shall let a few of the students of those days relate the various aspects of their student life and experience.

Here, for example, is a scene from the Greek class-room of Dr. Higbee:

" He sometimes taught us Homer and history. The whole scene before Troy seemed to be enacted there before us in the recitation room. There were Achilles, Agamemnon, and Nestor, right before us. He seemed to know the whole story by heart. On one occasion, when the student reciting was stumbling through one of Nestor's fine speeches, bungling the scanning, Dr. Higbee, becoming impatient, suddenly jumped to his feet and looking at the class said, 'Hear!' and commenced and ran through the entire speech in Greek from memory, and without the aid of the book. 'Oh, how grand! how beautiful!' he said as he finished it. The dramatic manner in which it was done astonished us as much as if Nestor himself had appeared bodily before us. No language, as he taught it, was ever dead. His magic touch made the dead speak and the dumb oracles break their silence." [23]

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[22] Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Hagerstown, October, 1878.

Another college student, who became an eminent psychologist and educator, said: "God has been good to me—the years of my life have been pleasant—but the happiest of them were the six I spent in that little obscure college, whose few students and graduates enjoyed the exceptional privilege of sitting at the feet of such a master as Dr. Higbee. I believe his influence was equal if not superior to that of Dr. Arnold. He had a contempt of shams and an appreciation of all that is good and beautiful and true, and best of all he taught us and made us feel that without the knowledge of the blessed Master all other knowledge is but little worth." [24]

Another gentleman wrote, "Some years ago, when Dr. Higbee was connected with the College at Mercersburg, he invited me to attend the examination of a graduating class. The text-book was Pindar, and the recitations from 1st Olympiad. It took no high degree of classical scholarship to feel that he was as familiar with the Olympic games as we are with the sports of our several neighborhoods; and that he knew and admired Hieron and his race-horse Pherenikos as much as the presiding genius of a race-course in our day, does the rider and the horse successful in the struggle." [25]

Superintendent Mackey related: "I had tried in vain to read Shakespeare until I entered Dr. Higbee's class, in 'Readings from English Literature.' The selections he read from Beaumont and Fletcher, and Massinger, and other dramatists, were fascinating; but when he began to read Shakespeare our enthusiasm knew no bounds. It was not only his keen analysis of the drama, his enthusiasm, his bright comments, that made the play of such thrilling interest to us—it was also his elocution, the magic of his voice. As a reader of Shakespeare, indeed, I have never heard his equal except Edwin Booth. . . .

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[23] Apple, John W. *Op. cit.*

[24] Deatrick, W. W., quoted in *Tributes of Loving Memory to . . . Higbee,* p. 31.

[25] Sharpe, A. B. "Those Who Love Learning." *Ibid.*, p. 47.

"It was thus with all subjects the Doctor taught. The hour spent in his class-room for Latin, Greek, Ethics, Aesthetics, and History of Philosophy, was an hour of thrilling interest, always to be anticipated, never to be forgotten. Let it not be imagined that Dr. Higbee's success in the class-room was magnified by contrast. The Faculty of the College in his day comprised men apt to teach, of broad scholarship, full of animation in the class-room, worthy comrades, characterized by a self-denying, patriotic devotion, like his own, to the interests of the College.

"He usually sat at his desk while teaching his class. In lectures he was wont to begin with bowed head, with the attitude and tone of one soliloquizing; then, as his interest in the theme grew, or as some especially attractive line of thought presented itself, he would become more animated; he would rise to his feet, step out beside his desk, his countenance all aglow as if in the halo of divine inspiration. Then would come an exposition, an extempore discourse, that beggars all description, in thought transcending anything we had ever conceived, in eloquence thrilling the soul with emotions that must be experienced to be known. One can no more have an adequate idea of Dr. Higbee in the class-room than of Switzerland without having been there. He was a skilled questioner, and often employed the Socratic method in drawing out his students or in developing his own thought. He was marvelously clear in his explanations, and never failed to make a vivid impression with the subjects he chose specially to emphasize."[26]

Under the presidency of Dr. Higbee truly effective work was done in Mercersburg College, but he had little coöperation from the church. Of course one must remember the terrible financial conditions that prevailed in America throughout the eighth decade of the nineteenth century. The news came in 1873 telling of the failure of Jay Cooke and Company, and the banks closed, stocks fell, industrial conditions were paralyzed, railroads went into receivership, labor was thrown out of employment. Not until the end of the decade did business recover anything like its former prosperity. Naturally it was difficult for congregations and individuals to respond to the appeals for help that came from educational institutions. But when all allowances are made for a period of depression, the simple fact of the matter is that the friends of Mercersburg College in the community and in the church were sadly lacking in vision and in generosity.

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[26] Mackey, E. *Op. cit.*

When the Potomac Synod took the institution in 1878 under her fostering care there was every reason to expect a wider constituency and a more assured income. But within a short time a crisis was reached. At the meeting of the Synod in Frederick, Maryland in 1879 an overture was presented from the Alumni Association of Mercersburg College, respectfully asking Synod for an hour to consider the future of the college, and, if practical, to devise means for the help of the college in its present necessity. The Board of Education announced at the same time that three men were receiving theological instruction in the post-graduate department of Mercersburg College, six students having graduated from that department during the year. Potomac Synod's Committee on Education, consisting of T. F. Hoffmeier, Ellis N. Kremer, John Kretzing, D. W. Ebbert, H. Wirt Shriver, Levi Bolger, and John M. Stoner, reported that in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster ten students had been admitted and seven had been graduated in May.

At the same time the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College elected by the Potomac Synod submitted its first report, giving a full statement of the financial condition of the institution. It appears that the property of Mercersburg College, chartered in 1865, had been purchased for $6500, of which amount Mercersburg Classis took upon itself to furnish $3500. Repairs and equipment required an additional outlay of $5000. The earnings were insufficient to meet this expense, and the institution had to depend upon the church from the outset. Even under the able management of T. G. Apple, who practised the utmost economy, the institution could not extricate itself. When Dr. Higbee took hold of the college there was a debt for current expenses of $5600, and the obligation for the original purchase of the property had been decreased only $4000.

Notwithstanding this, the college was able to go on, by means of great labor and sacrifice. The salaries of the professors were very small, and the great financial depression diminished the number of students as well as the charitable donations of friends.

The Board reported in 1879, assets amounting to $30,200 and liabilities of $12,098. A good many of the obligations had been shifted from outside parties to the professors of the college.

As to the literary work of the institution, its record stands secure. Twenty-seven of its students had entered the ministry. Its first president was now President of Franklin and Marshall College. The first professor, Dr. J. B. Kieffer, was now a professor in the same college. Another of its early professors had become Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota, and still another had recently become Assistant Professor of Chemistry in Cornell University.

The Committee continued: "All this encourages the Board of Regents in the conviction that the labor and sacrifice gone through have not been for naught, and that, if the school must close, it has accomplished sufficient to justify the efforts which have been made to sustain it."[27] It was evident that the efforts made to awaken the interest of the Synod had accomplished hardly anything.

The student roll was now reduced to twenty-six. This state of things rendered it impossible for the college to go on without endowment from the Synod. The sum of $25,000 would have saved the institution. The faculty, wishing to give the

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[27] Report of the Board of Education to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Frederick, Maryland, October, 1879.

Synod the utmost freedom in reorganizing the institution, tendered their resignation to the Board.

A special Committee on Mercersburg College, appointed by the Synod, took all these facts into consideration and reached the following conclusions:

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Regents be directed to employ an agent to canvass the territory of this Synod for the purpose of raising funds for the immediate necessities of said College, and also for the further purpose of raising Twenty Thousand Dollars for the permanent endowment of the College, and to secure a Faculty such as may be necessary to conduct the Institution with the least possible expense.

"*Resolved,* That the pastors and consistories in the bounds of this Synod be requested to coöperate with the agent thus sent out, and also with the Board of Regents to carry out these instructions and save the Institution, and so secure the establishment of Mercersburg College for the educational work of this Synod, if possible.

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Regents, if forthcoming relief cannot be thus obtained, in the coming year, be empowered to dispose of such property, as can be dispensed with to the least detriment to the operations of the College, and so reduce its work, as to bring the expenses within its income.

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Education of the Synod be directed to request the Board of Regents to discontinue the Post-Graduate Department or Course of Study, in said College.

"*Resolved,* That this Synod hereby requests the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College to secure such change in the Charter of the College as shall put the election of the members of the Board necessarily in the hands of the Synod."[28]

At the same time the Synod expressed its high appreciation of the eminent ability, faithfulness, and devotion to the work of Christian education performed by the Rev. Dr. Higbee. And well they might.

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[28] Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Frederick, 1879.

Those who heard Dr. Higbee's appeal for Mercersburg College on the floor of the Potomac Synod meeting at Woodstock, Virginia, in 1880 spoke about it for a generation afterwards. It was truly an impressive moment when a really great president, who was willing to sell his sole little piece of real estate to offset a claim against the college he loved, rose to the height of eloquence, and said: "It may prove in the end that the Potomac Synod has failed, and not Mercersburg College!"

When Dr. Higbee presented his report in 1880, he showed that the college had continued its work during the year. The Post-Graduate Course had been discontinued. According to the catalogue there were in attendance in the college classes eleven students, in the preparatory department nineteen. President Higbee declined reëlection, consenting however to remain until the meeting of Synod. Professor George F. Mull declined his reëlection as well. The faculty, therefore, consisted of Professors Jacob B. Kershner, Joseph H. Kershner, and J. Schaeffer.

For two whole days, morning, noon, and night, the Synod of Woodstock discussed the fate of Mercersburg College. Then the final action was taken when the following report was adopted:

"The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College together with other items bearing on the same subject, report that they have given the subject submitted to them the most earnest consideration, but cannot find a satisfactory solution. We have found ourselves confronted with such grave and serious difficulties in this subject, which involves the very life or death of Mercersburg College, that we are at a loss to know what to do, or what to advise. And all we feel we can do, is to present to you facts, which a careful investigation has brought to our knowledge, and then submit the whole subject to your Reverend Body again to find some solution, if you can, to help the College out of its difficulties.

"Your Committee are of the opinion, however, considering our connection with this College, that this Synod is not in any sense responsible for the liabilities of Mercersburg College, and yet we feel for the sake of the cause of education, and as Christian men, that something should be done, and that right speedily, to help them pay this indebtedness, and thus save this, the oldest seat of learning to the Church.

"We have carefully considered the assets and liabilities of Mercersburg College, with the light which members of the Board of Regents, and other friends of the College could give us, and find that its financial condition is deplorable. The liabilities are reported to be $14,297.50, whilst the assets, in the way of notes said to be collectible, provided the College be continued, are about one-half the indebtedness, and which would not be more than one-sixth if the College should cease. To these assets must be added the real estate purchased at $6500, so deeded, however, that it cannot be used for any but educational purposes; and if sold at all, would bring but a trifle of its original cost. Besides this they have the College library and apparatus, valued at $900. These liabilities and assets show that the College is insolvent.

"We are informed that the mortgage, given by the Board of Regents of the College, covers also the lease on the Seminary property, given by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, at a nominal rental per year.

"WHEREAS, Mercersburg College has come to a crisis, in which, in the judgment of this Synod, it is necessary to settle up its liabilities and collect its assets; therefore,

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College have power to settle up its indebtedness out of its assets, as far as they are available for this purpose, and, if possible, still preserve such property as shall be needed by this Synod to carry on its educational work in the future.

"*Resolved,* That, if necessary in the judgment of the Board of Regents, they suspend for the present the work of the College, or at least have it conducted without further increasing its indebtedness.

"*Resolved,* That, if in the judgment of the Board of Regents it be found necessary to collect additional funds to pay the liabilities of the College, they be empowered to send an agent into our pastoral charges to collect those funds, or to prepare such an appeal to the pastors to attend to this work, as in their judgment will seem best to secure this desirable end." [29]

Dr. Higbee's educational work had not been provincial in nature. As early as 1868 he had written a series of articles on "Our Educational Policy," comparing the American system of higher and lower education with that of other countries, notably Germany, England, and France. The articles attempted to build up a system of education in which the several parts from the elementary schools to the university were closely interrelated. These articles show that he was eminently fitted for large responsibility in the wider fields of education. This fact was recognized by the Hon. John Stewart of Franklin County, who suggested the name of Dr. Higbee to Governor Hoyt for appointment to the responsible position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The appointment followed. Governor Hoyt later described his first interview with Dr. Higbee and said that the magnetic personality of the man convinced him that he had made no mistake. Dr. Higbee succeeded Dr. J. P. Wickersham as head of the schools of Pennsylvania on April 1, 1881. He had the distinction of serving under three governors, receiving reappointments from Governor Pattison in 1885 and from Governor Beaver in 1889.

He served less than a year under his third appointment. In early December 1889, after delivering an address at Mifflintown, he stood in the late afternoon at the Mifflin station, talking to a boy, when he was stricken with apoplexy. He died in Lancaster on December 13 and was buried at Emmitsburg, Maryland, a place of hallowed memories and holy associations for Dr. Higbee.

Dr. Higbee was dead. The college doors were closed. But the memories, associations, and traditions remained and were cherished through the years. The graduates and students went out into the world, and took high place in professional and industrial life. During August 1912, largely through the initiative of John Straub of Eugene, Oregon, the Dean of the University of Oregon, there was a reunion in Mercersburg of the students who had matriculated in Mercersburg College under Dr. Apple and Dr. Higbee. The reunion was one of the most delightful affairs that old Mercersburg had ever witnessed. Over one hundred and fifty of the old students returned to Old Main. The reunion was made up of members of the classes of from 1865 to 1880, known as the Apple-Higbee régime of Mercersburg College.

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[29] Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Woodstock, Virginia, October, 1880.

A procession was formed, according to the program, and to the "Old Mercersburg March," played by the band, it proceeded in the following order through the town:

Paul Stouffer, Academy Student, Flag Bearer.
Mercersburg Band.
Burgess and Town Council.
Automobiles Bearing Mrs. Thomas G. Apple and daughter, Mrs. McKinstry; Mrs. J. B. Kershner and others.
Boy Scout Escort.
Old Boys, beginning with Class '65 and in numerical order extending to '80.
Later Students, Visitors, and Citizens.[30]

At the evening session, held in the Academy Chapel, Mr. George Rupley of Duluth, Minnesota, delivered an address in which he spoke feelingly of the building that had echoed the tread of many youthful feet. Burgess Philips spoke in the name of the citizens of Mercersburg, and George E. Sipe, Esq., of Harrisonburg, Virginia, in the name of the students. Dr. Irvine welcomed them in the name of the Academy, and the Rev. Mr. Bald in the name of the local Reformed Church. Dr. I. N. Peightel of Greencastle spoke in memory of those who had gone before. A reunion song, composed by Linn Harbaugh, Esq., was sung. Then followed reminiscences, by Professor E. Mackey of Trenton, New Jersey; T. Elliot Patterson, Esq., of Philadelphia; Linn Harbaugh, Esq., of Chambersburg; the Rev. C. Gumbert, of Schellsburg, Pennsylvania; Professor George F. Mull, of Lancaster; and Dr. John C. Bowman, also of Lancaster.

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[30] *Mercersburg Journal,* August 9, 1912.

On Saturday a delightful reception was held in Keil Hall by Dr. and Mrs. Irvine. On Sunday morning they all went to the Reformed Church, where the boys had attended service in their college days. Services were conducted by the Rev. I. M. Motter and the Rev. William I. Stewart. The reunion sermon was preached by the Rev. William F. Lichliter of Lancaster, who spoke of the influence of Mercersburg as a living power in the lives of the men who were its students.

That evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. M. Schick of Washington, D. C. The services were held on the lawn of old Trinity Reformed Church, under the shadow of Dr. Harbaugh's monument. After the singing of one of Dr. Harbaugh's hymns, Dr. Schick spoke on the college motto: *Via Crucis Via Lucis.*

SKETCHED BY DR. E. E. HIGBEE

Chapter XXI

Transition Years Under Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE reopened its doors when Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh took charge of the school in 1881. It was managed partly as a private school until the resignation of Dr. Aughinbaugh on account of advancing years in 1893. The story of these transitional years is a necessary link in this narrative of a hundred years of education in Mercersburg.

After the institution had been closed for a season, the Board of Regents reported to the Synod at Waynesboro in October 1881 as follows:

"Your Board is happy in being able to announce to the Synod that the College has recently been re-opened under the superintendence and management of Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., as a male and female institution of learning, such as it was for some time after its organization in 1865. Dr. Aughinbaugh is assisted in his work by an efficient lady teacher, besides his wife, who has charge of the department of music. The number of pupils is eighteen or twenty, with fair prospects of further accessions to the roll of students. As now conducted, the College is carried forward without any financial expense to the Board of Regents, or to the Church. If the Synod will only manfully rally around the institution, and furnish a largely increased number of students, male and female, this will not only continue to be the case, but the school will soon begin to afford revenue to help pay off, from year to year, the unfortunate indebtedness of Mercersburg College."

Dr. Aughinbaugh was in his sixty-third year when he took hold of the school at Mercersburg. He had had a remarkably varied and valuable experience. Born of German and Scotch-Irish ancestry in Chambersburg, February 12, 1819, he entered Marshall College as a member of the freshman class in 1841 and was graduated in 1844. After spending two years in the Theological Seminary, during which time he was also an assistant in the preparatory department, he was licensed to preach the gospel; was ordained by the Maryland Classis, and installed as pastor of the Emmitsburg charge. For ten years he served faithfully in the church of that community and shaped the life of many young men.

His inclinations, however, seemed to turn toward teaching, for in 1856 we find him opening a classical school at Bedford, Pennsylvania. In 1859 he preached in the Shenandoah Valley, but at the same time he opened a school for young women at Orkney Springs. Later he accepted a call to Riegelsville, Pennsylvania, and remained pastor there for upwards of two years. Then he was chosen President of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio. He is registered among the ministers in Tiffin in 1865 and 1866.[1] Because of illness in his family he resigned his position there before the vacancy in Riegelsville had been filled, and he was induced to return to his former pastorate, remaining there eight years. In 1873 he served as President of Palatinate College, Myerstown, Pennsylvania; after eight years in that position, followed by a brief rest, he undertook the work of reviving Mercersburg College with a patience and a faithfulness which won the admiration of all who knew him and loved him. It was said that no teacher in the church had filled more important positions or had influenced so many of his pupils to become ministers and missionaries as this quiet, effective, and kindly old principal.

A year after Dr. Aughinbaugh had taken charge, the President of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, William M. Deatrick, reported an attendance of upwards of forty pupils, a reduction of the debt by $4000, and the receipt of $300 interest money from the Synod. In 1883 the number of students had increased to sixty, nineteen of whom were girls. Dr. Aughinbaugh, as principal, was assisted by four teachers. The collegiate department was divided into a ladies' course of three years, a scientific course of three years, and a classical course covering the freshman and sophomore years of a regular collegiate curriculum. There was also a musical department. The Board during this year reported very considerable repairs to all the buildings. In 1884 the following item appeared in the report of the Board of Regents relative to the property:

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[1] See the *Reformed Church Almanacs* for those years.

"In the early part of the present year, what is known as the Seminary Property, located on the east side of the borough of Mercersburg, and now under lease to the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, was regularly transferred by deed to the Synod's Board of Trustees, by the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States. This was done agreeably to the authorization of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in annual sessions in Bellefonte, Pa., in October 1882. Said Synod then and there authorized the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary to transfer to the Trustees of this Synod, and their successors in office 'the Seminary property at Mercersburg, Pa., with the reservation, that the said property be used for no other than educational or religious purposes, and likewise, that it be not allowed to pass out of the possession of the Reformed Church.' This transfer, of course, does not and cannot affect the lease of the property, made to the Regents of Mercersburg College under the date of the 21st day of June, A.D. 1871, 'for the term of Ninety-nine years, commencing on the 1st day of July, A.D. 1871, and to terminate on the 1st day of July, A.D. 1970.'"[2]

In 1885 the finances of the institution seemed to become more involved. Five of the students were admitted to the sophomore class of Franklin and Marshall College. The treasurer of the Potomac Synod had failed to pay the interest on the obligations of the college. Dr. Aughinbaugh obligated himself to furnish all young men studying in the college for the ministry with boarding, tuition, room-rent, fuel, and light for the sum of $150 per scholastic year of forty weeks.

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[2] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Hanover, October, 1884.

During the following year repairs at a cost of $1000 were made to the buildings; Old Main and the two adjacent professor's houses were repainted, and the property was given a decidedly improved appearance. Then on Wednesday, September 8, 1886 an educational convention was held in the Reformed Church of Mercersburg, in which the following action was taken:

"*Resolved,* That it is the sense of this convention that Mercersburg College be continued.

"*Resolved,* That in order to reach this end and accomplish the great work lying before it, a fund of at least $60,000.00 should be raised to meet present wants and begin a moderate endowment.

"*Resolved,* That as soon as $40,000.00 of said fund shall have been subscribed, *bona fide,* the subscriptions taken shall become binding; and the Board of Regents should proceed to reorganize the working powers of the college, on a basis, however, which shall forever prevent the accumulation of debt, in accordance with the direction of the Synod of the Potomac.

"*Resolved,* That, only as resources and funds shall permit, additional teaching force shall be added to the Faculty.

"*Resolved,* That Mercersburg College, through its Board of Regents, should be under the supervision and patronage of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church, and that said Synod is hereby overtured to take favorable action towards making this institution her very own, without antagonizing any other existing interests.

"*Resolved,* That the citizens of Mercersburg and vicinity, more immediately receiving the benefits of the institution, should be expected to pledge and secure one-fifth of the sum to be raised." [3]

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[3] Quoted in the report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Mercersburg, October, 1886.

In 1887 repairs to the preparatory building and the adjacent professor's house in the south end of town were reported. In 1888 there was an increase of twenty students, giving the school a larger attendance than it had at any time since the reopening in 1881. The number of pupils who boarded in the refectory was about twenty-five. But no portion of the sums pledged by the Synod toward reducing the obligation of the institution had been received by the Board of Regents for two years.

In 1889 we are told that five young ladies completed the prescribed course in the female department and were granted diplomas by the Board. Three of these also graduated from the musical department. Three of the young men had gone to the upper classes in Franklin and Marshall College. The students of the college had commenced in January 1889 the publication of the *Mercersburg College Monthly*.

In the opening number of this student publication we note that the young ladies of the institution had organized the Alcott Literary Society of Mercersburg College in honor of Miss Louisa M. Alcott. The Washington Irving and the Alcott societies had a joint public meeting on November 25, 1888. The Marshall Literary Society had collected a library amounting to 1500 volumes and the Washington Irving Literary Society had an equal number of books in its collection.

In the fourth number of the *Monthly* (April 1889) we note the following item: "The foot-ball team came out a short time ago in its new and handsome uniform, presenting a fine appearance. The uniform consists of white flannel knee pants with black stripe, white belt with black stripe in the center, jacket old gold colored flannel, laced in front with orange and black ribbon (college colors)."

The fall of 1889 witnessed the introduction of another sport at Mercersburg College:

"Several weeks ago a meeting was held by some of our baseball enthusiasts, and a club was organized.

"The club has played three match games and has been victorious in all of them. The first game was played with a picked nine from Mercersburg and was easily won by a score of 17 to 6. On Saturday October 28, the club went to McConnellsburg to play a game of ball with the club of that place. In the first inning, McConnellsburg scored three runs before the side was retired, the college boys making but one. In the second the college team forged ahead, the score standing, at the end of the third inning, 5 to 4 in favor of the College team. In the fourth and fifth innings, McConnellsburg, aided by several wild throws, increased their score to 12. The college boys then came to the bat and for the entire inning kept the McConnellsburg players on the chase of leather. Fifteen men came to bat, eleven earned runs were scored, and the game was practically won. The final score was the College 20; McConnellsburg 12.

"The third game was played against the town club, and was easily won, on account of the wildness of the town pitcher, the battery work of the College team, and the general good play of the college boys. The score was College 20; Town 3."[4]

As for the other amusements of the students in 1889, the following will give a glimpse of recreation in Mercersburg in those days: "A petition signed by all the students was handed to Dr. Aughinbaugh Thursday morning October 3d, requesting him to give the next day as a holiday, stating that they desired to make an excursion to the mountain in quest of chestnuts. Dr. Aughinbaugh made the announcement in the chapel that it was the custom of the institution to give a day for this purpose and that he would grant the request. Thursday evening was devoted to making preparations for an early start on the following morning. Friday morning dawned clear and bracing. After a hearty breakfast almost the entire school started on foot for the chestnut grove, and we doubt if ever the campus was crossed by a more light-hearted crowd. The destination was reached in good time, and then, as the student terms it, the fun began, cutting clubs and poles, climbing and threshing trees until all had as many chestnuts as they desired. The return was made in the same joyous manner which had characterized the whole day, showing that even if the body was fatigued by the long ramble the spirit remained fresh and happy."[5]

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[4] *Mercersburg College Monthly,* October, 1889.

The following is an interesting picture of social life at a coeducational institution fifty years ago: "On the evening of the 12th [of February] at 7.30, we were agreeably surprised by hearing the well known sound of the triangle which has so often called us to our meals, but on this occasion it summoned us together for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the birth of our esteemed President. Upon entering the dining hall our eyes rested upon the two long tables tastefully decorated with beautiful flowers, and spread with a variety of cake, oranges, lemonade, etc. Very soon he for whom the banquet was given was ushered in together with the young ladies of the college. Arranging ourselves promiscuously around the tables, with light hearts, pleasant words, and joyous though not boisterous laughter, we began to partake of the feast spread before us. After which by a unanimous voice Dr. Aughinbaugh was called upon for an address and he responded with an appropriate one for the occasion. Then for the space of an hour we engaged in lively conversation interspersed here and there with rich jokes. After giving a vote of thanks to Mrs. Aughinbaugh to whom the pleasures of the evening were due, we dispersed, each feeling that this was one more of the many pleasant occasions to be remembered and cherished in connection with Mercersburg College."[6]

It was on commencement occasions in June that the spirit of old Mercersburg College was seen at its best. Take for example the commencement week of June 12, 1889, with its musical events, its literary society anniversaries, its baccalaureate occasion on Sunday evening in Trinity Reformed Church, when all the churches in town were closed in order to give everyone an opportunity of showing his interest in the college and hearing Dr. Aughinbaugh give his final address and admonition to the graduating class. And then the commencement exercises were attended in large numbers by ministers of the various churches, the Board of Regents, and friends from adjacent towns.

[5] *Ibid.* October, 1889.

[6] *Ibid.*, March, 1889.

In 1890 the attendance was about fifty. Ten young men were prepared for the sophomore class of Franklin and Marshall College or other colleges in which they wished to continue their studies; $4000 had been paid during the year on the obligations of the college; a number of important claims had been settled; " a number of the rooms in the college building, or seminary, as it used to be called, have been put in excellent condition, and furnished with entirely new furniture, by means of the liberality of the congregations at Frederick, Chambersburg, the Manor charge, and one or more individuals. The Board acknowledged the instrumentality of Elder Jacob Heyser in effecting these improvements in the rooms of the college so that the Board had not been at any expense whatever in making them." [7]

A year later, 1891, the Board of Regents reported that repairs to the buildings were absolutely necessary. " In the Seminary Building one or two rooms, in addition to those mentioned in last year's report, have been put in thorough repair by friends of the college, but along with those previously put in like condition, present a marked contrast to the other rooms." A debt still remained of nearly five thousand dollars, concerning which the Board says, " For eleven years the Board has struggled with the debts of the college, and can now report them as reduced to about one-third of what they were in October, 1880, when the Synod met at Woodstock, Va., and now light seems to be breaking through this darkness, and with it come other questions, which we deem of greater moment to education, to our College, and to our Church, than the payment of the debt.

" After much deliberation, the Board respectfully submits to Synod some projects, or plans, in reference to the future of the college; and asks your reverend body to approve or modify, or take such course as your wisdom may deem best.

" *First.* We recommend the total cancellation of the debt.

" *Second,* The speedy provision of means to do positive work in the college as an institution of learning. It is well known that a seminary, academy, or college cannot exist and do its proper work on the profits or moneys it may take in for tuition, boarding, &c. A fund is now always relied upon to help defray the expenses of an institution—particularly to secure the prompt and certain payment of the teaching force. Therefore we ask the Synod to take steps to finish the payment of the debt, and to provide an endowment fund, say of $30,000. With such a fund the Board would feel warranted in undertaking and arranging for the education of our youth, for entrance to Franklin and Marshall, or other colleges, in the Freshman, Sophomore or Junior years; and for those not inclined, or shut out from a regular collegiate course, a sufficient education for the many lines of business usefulness outside of the professions. The Board has been, so far as possible, conducting the college in this line of education, and it now asks of this Synod, that it decide if this line is to be followed in the future, and if not, then to define the province in which it wishes the Board to work.

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[7] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Hanover, October, 1890.

" A course of study for ladies, whenever such should not coincide with that required for the other sex, should also be carefully and liberally considered and provided." [8]

At the same meeting of the Potomac Synod in 1891, the following statement relating to future policy was adopted: " We recognize our obligations to the people of Mercersburg and vicinity to maintain an educational institution in their midst on the basis of the old foundations laid by our fathers. We believe that this obligation can be best met and the highest educational interests of the Reformed Church in all directions be best subserved by the maintenance of a good classical school or collegiate institute at Mercersburg which shall ground students in the elements of a scientific and literary education, and carry as far as to the sophomore year such as deserve to take a full college course;" and then to give definiteness to this policy, Synod's Committee, headed by Dr. Conrad Clever, took the following action:

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[8] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Chambersburg, October, 1891.

"WHEREAS, The Charter of Mercersburg College vests its entire management and discipline in the Board of Regents;

"*Resolved,* That the Synod respectfully requests the Board of Regents to so arrange the management of and the course of study in Mercersburg College, that it may be in a position to command the better patronage and influence of the entire Synod.

"*Resolved,* That the Synod hereby pledges to the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, its moral and financial support in any reasonable effort put forth to bring the institution into harmony with the desires and interests of the Synod.

"In regard to the endowment of Mercersburg College

"*Resolved,* That the committee appointed to raise funds to cancel the indebtedness be instructed at the same time to solicit funds for the endowment of the institution." [9]

The Chambersburg Synod of 1891, instead of holding a business session on Friday afternoon, was taken on a visit to Mercersburg through the kindness of Col. Thomas B. Kennedy, President of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, and an alumnus of Marshall College. The whole Synod met in front of Mercersburg College, listened to addresses of welcome by Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh, President of the College, and one of the students, which were responded to by the President of Synod. Addresses were also made by two or three members of the Synod who had studied at Mercersburg some twenty-five years ago. At the close of the outdoor services at the college, members of Synod went to the Reformed Church, where memorial services were held for the Rev. Dr. E. E. Higbee in the church, and for the Rev. Dr. Henry Harbaugh around his grave in front of the church.[10]

A committee was then appointed to attend the public dedication of the monument erected to the memory of Dr. E. E. Higbee by the Public Schools of Pennsylvania, which occurred October 31st at Emmittsburg, Maryland.

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[9] Report of a Committee to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Chambersburg, October, 1891.

[10] Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Chambersburg, Pa., October 13, 1891.

The year 1892 was the transitional year between the old and the new régime. The Board of Regents, the Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, President, reported that

" The educational work of the College has been conducted during the past year the same as for ten years previous, by the Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh, without involving the Board in any expense or debt. At the opening of the present session in the college, the teaching force was very materially changed, but not deteriorated by said change.

" Three young ladies completed the prescribed course of study in the Female Department last June, and were granted diplomas to that effect by the Board. Four young men were fitted to enter the Sophomore Class, and entered other institutions of learning, one of them having been admitted into the Theological Seminary, at Lancaster, Pa.

" Since the last meeting of the Synod, between eight and nine hundred dollars of the principal of the debt has been cancelled, and the interest of the debt paid up to last April. An endowment fund has been invested amounting to $625.00.

" The Board held an adjourned meeting in Chambersburg, Pa., June 28th and 29th, at which there was a full attendance of the members of the Board, when, after prolonged discussion and prayerful consideration, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, namely:

" ' In response to the deliverance of the Synod in 1891, on the subject of Education in connection with Mercersburg College, the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College would respectfully submit the following:

" ' WHEREAS, The Synod of the Potomac in its annual sessions in Chambersburg, Pa., in October, 1891, made certain requests of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, with regard to the management and course of study in said institution, so as to command the better patronage and influence of the entire Synod, and also to make a better provision for female education within the bounds of the Synod; and

" ' WHEREAS, The Synod has also pledged its moral and financial support in any reasonable effort to secure the above end; therefore,

" ' 1. *Resolved,* That provision be made to carry students to the end of the Sophomore year in the regular College course.

" ' 2. *Resolved,* That provision also be made for Liberal, Literary, Scientific, Normal and Commercial courses.

" ' 3. *Resolved,* That a liberal course of studies be provided for young ladies.

" ' 4. *Resolved,* That the Preparatory Building and property shall be thoroughly repaired and fitted for a ladies' school.

" ' 5. *Resolved,* That the College or Seminary Building be also thoroughly repaired and made comfortable and inviting for the male students.

" ' 6. *Resolved,* That both be comfortably heated with modern appliances.

" ' 7. *Resolved,* That the necessary apparatus be provided for the different departments, so that more efficient work can be done in the institution.

" ' 8. *Resolved,* That this plan shall be put into operation with the opening of the Fall Term of 1893.

" ' 9. *Resolved,* That we ask for the sum of $10,000.00 to make these necessary improvements, besides what may yet be needed to pay the remaining indebtedness.

" ' 10. *Resolved,* That the endowment of $30,000.00, already commenced, be completed as speedily as possible.

" ' 11. *Resolved,* That to facilitate the raising of funds, and thus enable our Church to keep abreast with the general spirit of education, we ask the Synod to have in an especial manner the need and importance of this matter laid before all our people, so as to prepare them for more free and favorable responses to the call to be made upon them.

" ' 12. *Resolved,* That we respectfully submit the foregoing plan to the Synod for its approval.

" ' 13. *Resolved,* That we ask the Synod at its next annual meeting to be held at Martinsburg, W. Va., to direct one evening to be set apart for the consideration of our educational work.' "[11]

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[11] Report of the Board of Regents to the Potomac Synod meeting at Martinsburg, West Virginia, October, 1892.

This action was referred by the Synod for consideration to a special committee consisting of the Revs. S. N. Callender, J. S. Kieffer, T. R. Dietz, P. M. Trexler, G. B. Resser, W. C. Schaeffer and Elders S. N. Hench, W. A. Pence and A. Heberlig. At the time designated, the committee presented the following report:

" Your Committee to which was referred the consideration of the general interests and provisions necessary for the well-being of Mercersburg College, beg leave to report:

" That, after hearing a further expression of opinion on the part of persons interested in the wise resolution of the questions relating to this College, your Committee endeavored to consider the whole subject with an earnestness and care which were felt to be due its grave importance. There was but one opinion as to the indispensable importance of suitable provision for the education of the sons and daughters of our church within the bounds of the Synod of the Potomac. We were impressed with the fact that notwithstanding the limitations and embarrassments under which the institution has labored for the last several years, its management has been successful not only in largely abating its disabilities, but at the same time in contributing a service in the maintenance of the cause of Christian education within our bounds, by no means inconsiderable, but at once valuable and thankworthy. It was felt with unbroken unanimity that it would be gravely unwise to abandon, or in any way to impair the vantage ground we now hold in Mercersburg, without any superior or even equal advantages within reach. And yet it was felt that some changes ought to be made to widen the reach and enhance the efficiency of the School.

" After a free interchange of views, and a careful balancing of the views submitted to our consideration, your Committee unanimously concluded to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

" *Resolved,* That the Committee now in existence, to solicit means for the liquidation of the remaining indebtedness, be instructed to vigorously press forward the work of providing means for the extinguishing of the remaining debt, and also to secure such additional means as may be necessary to put the Seminary Building in a suitable and presentable condition.

"*Resolved,* That one or both of the residences in the Seminary campus, as may be necessary, be utilized for the accommodation of such female students as may be in attendance upon the instructions of the College, as long as they may be needed.

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Regents be advised to sell, if it can legally be done, and upon terms wise and judicious, the Preparatory and adjacent buildings and grounds.

"*Resolved,* That a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to make inquiries to ascertain where a suitable location may be found, what inducements and grants, etc., can be secured for the establishment of a Female College, south of Mason's and Dixon's line, with a view of transferring the female department of Mercersburg College to that place. It being clearly recognized by this Synod that the establishment of such an institution is at this time an urgent and keenly felt necessity.

"Respectfully submitted,
"S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman*"[12]

This action was important because it changed the whole future policy of education at Mercersburg, and it was one of the factors that entered into the permanent organization of what is now known as Hood College for Women south of the Mason and Dixon Line, in Frederick, Maryland.

One of the members of the Synod who later wrote his personal recollections of the establishment of Mercersburg Academy and Hood College says: "One of the most vivid recollections of the annual meetings of the Potomac Synod in my early ministry was the annual Reports of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College and the serious problem which confronted them. These reports always aroused sympathy; aid was promised which was never given. There were very few students. There was not sufficient interest to arouse action in behalf of the College. It was generally felt, but not expressed, that the Church could not successfully revive and maintain the College at Mercersburg. There was always a lurking suspicion in the minds of the younger men of the Synod that the Board of Regents was bent on again building up an institution that would do college work and grant degrees. This, it was felt, was a hopeless task, and one which would not be desirable even if it were accomplished.

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[12] Report of a Committee to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Martinsburg, October, 1892.

"Then I offered a substitute for all the recommendations and resolutions offered by the Board. This substitute was that the Synod should define, once and for all, the character of the institution to be maintained at Mercersburg. I pointed out the inadvisability of continuing to call the institution a college when it was not a college, and that there was no probability of its ever becoming one, but that *there was ample room for an academy, which ought to be limited to boys.* My substitute called also for the establishment of a girls' school south of Mason's and Dixon's Line." [13]

During this same year, Dr. Aughinbaugh, who was by this time almost seventy-five years old, resigned the presidency of Mercersburg College after a service of twelve years. He had been instrumental in carrying on the institution until, in the Providence of God, it became possible for a younger and more vigorous man, Dr. William Mann Irvine, to perpetuate the work under the spirit and organization of the Mercersburg Academy.

Dr. Aughinbaugh lived to be almost ninety-five years of age. His life was not only full of years, but full of good works. The fact of which he was most proud was that he had baptized and confirmed Dr. E. E. Higbee and led him to become interested in the educational thought and life of the Mercersburg institutions. One of the most pleasant incidents of his later years was the unveiling of his portrait in the hall of fame connected with the Mercersburg Academy. On this occasion a beautiful and well deserved tribute was paid to his life-long service as teacher and preacher, and to his fine Christian character, by his pastor, the Rev. Irvin W. Hendricks of Chambersburg. Dr. Irvine accepted the portrait and spoke very graciously " of Dr. Aughinbaugh's work as a fine example of patience and faithfulness under most trying circumstances." [14]

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[13] The Rev. C. S. Slagle, in a manuscript of personal recollections in the Nevoniana Collection, Franklin and Marshall College.

Dr. Aughinbaugh died on August 28, 1913, at his home near Green Village, Pa., and his body lies buried at Riegelsville, Pa. The mantle of this Elijah had meanwhile fallen on the shoulders of a younger Elisha, whose vision and energy were to transform the scene at Mercersburg.

In the words of an old student and professor, Dr. George F. Mull, " The removal of the Theological Seminary sealed the doom of the College. What would ultimately have happened if the Seminary had remained permanently at Mercersburg cannot be known—but certainly nothing equal to the wonderful success achieved by Mercersburg Academy." [15]

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[14] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 11, 1913.

[15] MS. in the Nevoniana Collection, Franklin and Marshall College.

SKETCHED BY DR. E. E. HIGBEE

Chapter XXII

Dr. Irvine Comes to Mercersburg

AT this point of his narrative the writer recalls his own college days. He was a student in Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., at the opening of the last decade of the nineteenth century. For forty years this fine old college had been jogging along. Nothing ever happened. It had seven professors and 107 students. There were only four buildings on the campus. The Theological Seminary utilized these buildings for its classes in the afternoon, the college occupying them in the morning. Collegians and seminarians were closely associated in all activities. The three seminary professors and their forty-five students mingled with the college faculty and undergraduates as members of the same family.

Then something happened. A new spirit seemed to be infused into the life of both institutions. Organizations of every conceivable variety began to spring up—glee clubs, football teams, publications, social activities of various kinds came to the staid old college like a fresh breeze over the heather. The source of this new vitality was not a professor, but a new student who had entered the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at Lancaster early in September 1889. His name was Irvine. All that the boys knew about him when he came was that he had come from Princeton, after making a splendid record there. And who was this new seminary student?

William Mann Irvine was his name. The students called him " Buck " because of his football tactics. He registered as a native of Bedford, Pennsylvania, where he was born, the second of ten children, on October 13, 1865. His father was Henry Fetter Irvine, his mother Emily Elizabeth Mann.

His grandfather Irvine was a home missionary, having six different congregations and preaching places in his charge. Many a time he rode on horseback all day and far into the night to keep his appointments. His maternal great-grandfather, Peter Mann, fought as a private under Washington. He was a farmer. After the Revolutionary War he moved from the environs of Philadelphia to Bedford County, Pa., where he bought a farm from another ancestor of Quaker descent. He cleared more land, and by great energy and intelligence made his farm one of the best producers in that part of the state.[1]

After a few years in public school and a short term of service in a general store in Bedford, young Irvine entered Phillips Exeter Academy, as a boy of sixteen. It was in the earliest days, when the Exeter eleven, accompanied by its student supporters, went to Andover for their first football contests. Young Irvine entered Exeter in the fall of the year 1881, when " the Andover rooters were at last permitted to accompany their team to Exeter, and over two hundred of them saw Captain ' Sam ' Bremner and his men in a heavy downpouring of rain, win out with a goal and a touchdown to nothing." He was there the next year when the boys of these rival schools played " on a field which had been cleared of three inches of snow." [2]

We can imagine the excitement these events would create in the life of a boy of sixteen from a rural town, who was working his way through this old New England school. It was at Phillips Exeter Academy that he really received the inspiration for his life work. A member of the faculty, Mr. Frank W. Cushwa, said: " To us the young Irvine came, poor in purse but possessing already in abundance those qualities which he later named on the Mercersburg coat of arms: *integritas, virilitas, fidelitas*. Physically he showed on the football field and in his twelve-hour working day that superb physique which enabled him to spend in the more than forty years that followed so incredible an amount of energy. Intellectually he worked in that eager, honest, thorough, and original way of his, which gave him fourth place in his Exeter class of seventy-five; which prepared him for the honor roll at Princeton. In the religious life of Exeter, characteristically he was a leader, serving as president of the Christian Fraternity; and characteristically also he was a member of the glee club and chapel choir, and an officer of one of the debating societies. He presided in his student days as toastmaster at an academy Thanksgiving dinner. No school ever had a more loyal, devoted son." [3]

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[1] As related by Dr. Irvine in the sermon commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of his headmastership, 1923. Memorial Volume to William Mann Irvine, Mercersburg, 1928, pp. 16–17.

[2] Fuess, Claude M. *An Old New England School*. Boston, 1917, p. 475.

He was the stroke oar on the starboard side for the Exeter crew, and held the school record for the longest-distance drop kick. During his vacations in the Phillips Exeter period of his life he worked as clerk in a general store in Bedford, and sold reference books in New England.

In the fall of 1884 Irvine entered Princeton University, being one of sixteen in a class of 140 who were admitted without condition. He was awarded a gold medal in a freshman oratorical contest in Whig Hall; in his junior year he was awarded a prize for an essay on "The Genius of Coleridge"; during his entire college course he stood upon the honor roll; he delivered the class prophecy on class day and on commencement day delivered an oration. While at Princeton he was the regular correspondent for the Philadelphia *Times* and the New York *Tribune*, and also contributed largely to other papers.

His life at Princeton is best described in the words of one of his classmates, a member of the famous class of '88, who gives the following account of Irvine, the college boy, as a friend knew him:

"Older than most of his classmates [he was nineteen when he entered Princeton] he had already outgrown in body and in mind the boyish state in which so many of us still lingered. He was a young man already giving promise of the role he was to play in later years.

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[3] *Bulletin of the Phillips Exeter Academy*, January, 1929.

" He attracted our attention at once. He was not our first Class President; that honor was conferred by acclamation upon the handsomest of the candidates who stood up before the Freshman voters. But the good-looker didn't long retain the office and at the next election Irv was chosen, I believe, by unanimous consent as our President. That was our first deliberate choice and it is not without interest to note that only a few months ago [1928] he was again invited to preside over his class at our latest Reunion. As in the beginning, so in the end—our leader. And there were good and sufficient reasons for the choice. He was our most distinguished athlete. Hardly had he entered college when he was called on to play guard on the 'Varsity team—a position which he filled for five successive years (old days—old rules—or lack of them). He was the captain of our Freshman baseball team which defeated the hated Sophomores with great slaughter. But he was more than the mere athlete. He had a wide and varied interest in all college activities. He sang in the college choir and on the glee club. He was a prominent member of Whig Hall, where he took prizes for speaking and composition, and was one of the Whig Junior orators. For three years he was a member of the editorial board of *The Princetonian* and in his Senior year became the managing editor. In his Junior year he was an editor of the *Bric-a-Brac,* the college record of athletic and social activities. He took his share in all the fun and gay informal games, the ' horse,' for which our class was famous, or as baser spirits say notorious and with all these interests he never for a moment neglected his studies. Not, I think, so quick or brilliant a student as some of us, he was a painstaking, careful, and intelligent worker. In one field, at least, that of history, he excelled. It was the custom of our revered and dreaded Professor of History, the late William Mulligan Sloane, to dictate a few days before his examination some twenty topics—usually of a sort that called for wide and serious study—on which the final test would be based. It was likewise the custom of the class to divide these topics up into groups of four, to set four men at work on them—one man to a group—and on the night before the examination to meet and prove, so to speak, our knowledge. I belonged to a quartet in which Irvine worked and I still remember with admiration, the exactness, the clarity, and the wide scope of his contributions. He crowned his career in Princeton by winning a fellowship in Social Science and worked as a graduate student in close association with Professors Sloane and Johnston to whose refining influence he was in later years to bear eloquent testimony." [4]

Colonel James Barnes, a lower classman, describes his first meeting with William Mann Irvine at a glee club concert at Elizabeth, New Jersey, in 1887. "He presented a sturdy figure, standing among the basses, singing powerfully and energetically. He was pointed out to me as Princeton's great guard, the mainstay of the 'Varsity line." Then, later in his recollections, Colonel Barnes describes his Princeton days and his relations with the upperclassman Irvine: "The second day that I was in college I ran across an old St. Paul's boy in the class of '88 who introduced me to William Mann Irvine—'Buck' as he was called—and immediately I felt drawn to him by the directness, the simplicity, the manliness of his bearing. . . . Although he was a senior and I a freshman, we were about of an age and, to put it shortly, we hit it off. Many hours did he spend in my room at old University Hall, or I spent in his room in Edwards. . . ." Then he describes the football prowess of Irvine and the redoubtable Hector Cowan: "Irvine and Cowan held two unbeatable records. They both played regularly on the Princeton eleven without missing a game for five consecutive years, from the time they entered—there was no freshman ineligibility—until they were graduated, and then they continued playing the succeeding fall—their first term in graduate work." [5] He played five games against Yale and four against Harvard.

During several of his vacations while at Princeton he worked with the New York *Tribune* in the interest of the Fresh Air Fund for Children. He was enthusiastic about this

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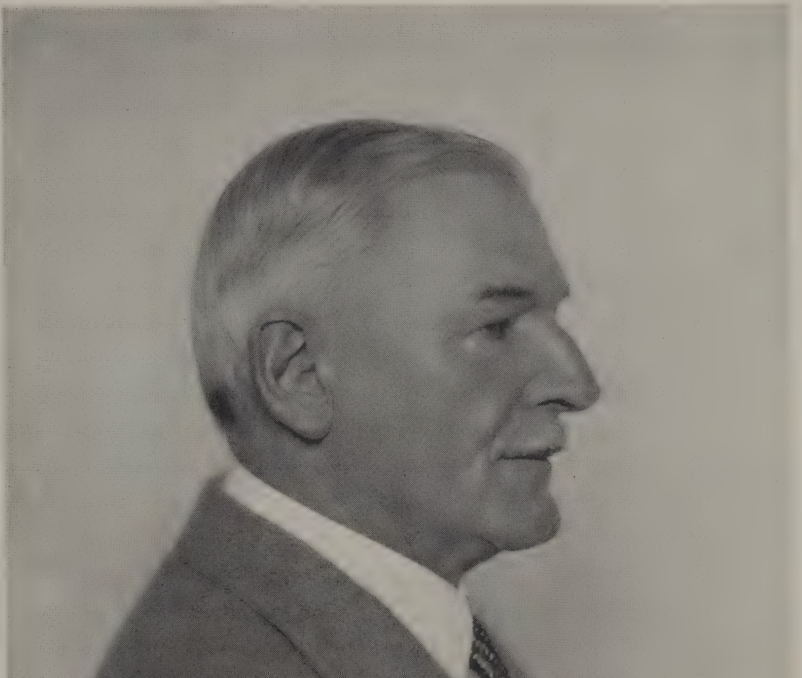
[4] Parrott, Thomas Marc. "William Mann Irvine—the Friend," in Irvine Memorial Volume, pp. 112–113.

[5] Barnes, James. "A Recollection." *Ibid.*, p. 44.



Colonel James Barnes
President of the Board of Regents, 1927–1934

work of caring for the boys and girls of the city streets. It appealed to his organizing ability, it developed his sense of leadership, and it gave him a sympathetic outlook. Those who knew Dr. Irvine are fully aware of his deep practical desire to help young people. The experiences he had in the work of the Tribune Fresh Air Fund during the formative and impressionable years of his student life were an important influence in the shaping of his future career. It was not only a sociological interest that he developed in his work for all ranks and conditions of boys and girls. There was a genuine religious motive that served as the driving force of his life and work. We have in him a remarkable instance of a college man who was scholar, athlete, and Christian gentleman. His own classmate, Dr. Parrott, said that " through his four years in Princeton Irvine showed himself from first to last the sincere, devout, and modest Christian. His conception of Christianity was that of service, of frank fellowship with Christian comrades, of open, but not effusive confession of his Master." [6]

Irvine received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Princeton in 1888. " Being awarded the Fellowship in Social Science, Mr. Irvine spent a graduate year at Princeton. After leaving Princeton he spent two additional years in the study of Political Science, in which department he took the degree of Ph.D. in 1891. The subject of his thesis was ' Immigration.' The primary subject of his examination was ' Scientific Method in History '; subsidiaries, *a.* ' Age of Queen Anne in English Literature '; *b.* ' English Empirical School of Philosophy.' " [7]

In the fall of 1889 he came to Lancaster, Pa., and entered the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, determined to study for the ministry. This was not a sudden decision. As we have seen, his grandfather had been a pioneer minister; he himself had been intensely interested in Christian work in his undergraduate days, and his whole background, training, and temperament seemed to draw him to the Chris-

[6] Parrott, *op. cit.*

[7] *F. and M. Weekly*, September 14, 1892.

tian ministry. There were inexplicable factors in this determination. "During the last year of Dr. Irvine's life, his mother told him for the first time that although she was poor she consecrated him in his infancy, and hoped that in some way or other he could be educated and would help to make the world better. In the Headmaster's last sermon in the Chapel he said, 'It is one of the greatest joys of my life that I have tried to help answer my mother's prayer.'"[8]

Dr. Irvine's class in the Theological Seminary numbered seventeen at entrance and fifteen at graduation. It was in many respects a remarkable class, not only because of the important positions the several members were later called upon to occupy in the work of the church but because of the fine spirit of fellowship, which continued through the years. The class consisted of the following members: Henry H. Apple, Albert B. Bauman, Atvill Conner, Jr., Charles E. Creitz, Daniel G. Hetrick, William Mann Irvine, U. O. H. Kershner, Gotthold A. S. Neff, Frederick A. Rupley, Charles E. Schaeffer, Isaac M. Schaeffer, George B. Smith, Andrew H. Smith, E. Will Stonebraker, and Simon U. Waugaman. The class instituted a round-robin letter in which each member annually informed his classmates of the course of his life, frankly telling of his joys and sorrows, disappointments and achievements. The reunions of the class, of which there were many, were occasions of delightful fellowship, concerning which Dr. Irvine often spoke.

Dr. Irvine came to the Seminary at the time that Dr. John S. Stahr assumed the presidency of Franklin and Marshall College, and naturally a new era of the college's life and development followed. In the bringing about of this new era Dr. Irvine was an important factor. While in the Seminary he became intensely interested in the college boys. He threw himself with all his energy and rather mature experience into the field of college activities, which at the same time were seminary activities, for the two were practically one. On September 10, 1889, shortly after his arrival, he was elected President of the Athletic Association. At the same time he was chosen captain of the reorganized football team. A training table was established and the whole college and community became football-conscious. The *College Student* said, "Some monstrous athletic cyclone must have surely struck us recently. Football is a child in years but a giant in strength. Every student from prep to sem is filled with football. In the city there is but one topic. We hear it from morning till night, on the street, in our rooms, and at college. Organized but a little over a month ago, the football team has made a record of which clubs of long experience might well be proud."[9]

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[8] Irvine Memorial Volume, p. 1.

Winter came, and with it came a glee and mandolin club, with W. M. Irvine as President and Leader. By February 1890 the club was traveling extensively both north and south of the Mason and Dixon Line. One of the features of the musical program was the leader, Irvine, imitating a bugle in solos entitled "Pullman Train," "Awful Little Scrub," and "Old Black Joe." At the Chambersburg concert Dr. Hibben, later President of Princeton University, was present; at Harrisburg, Governor James A. Beaver attended.

Spring came, and with it came the clamor for field day sports. But there was no track close at hand, and alas! no gymnasium. So the movement began, in which the young seminarian was a potent factor, of erecting the first gymnasium on the campus of the college.

When the next fall arrived, the Franklin and Marshall football team made its first trip to Princeton. Irvine crossed the Princeton goal line for three touchdowns with his newly organized team. In the same year they defeated Lafayette, Penn State, and Bucknell.

On February 28, 1891, the colleges of Pennsylvania, meeting at Harrisburg, organized a permanent football association and adopted a constitution, modelled after the code of the minor league of the great universities. The title of the organization was The Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Football Association, and W. M. Irvine was elected as the first president.

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[9] November, 1889.

He frequently refereed major football games, as for example the Yale-Harvard game at Springfield, Massachusetts, on November 22, 1890, and the Princeton-Columbia game at Washington, D. C., in October 1892.

His urge for journalism impelled him to join with two other students in starting the *F. & M. Weekly*, which exists today. He was asked by the New York *Tribune* to write biographies of Dr. E. V. Gerhart, Dr. T. G. Apple, and Attorney-General W. U. Hensel. During his vacations he was called upon to write leading human-interest articles about the boys and girls for whom the Tribune Fresh Air Fund had been brought into existence.

In 1891 he was elected to the position of physical director of the gymnasium which was now being erected and for which Dr. Irvine was called upon to secure the equipment. He was delegated to visit various gymnasiums in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities, in order to study athletic apparatus and award the contract for equipment for the new gymnasium at Franklin and Marshall.

His interest in athletics was by no means local or provincial. In the winter of 1891, when he was only twenty-six, he was asked to respond to the toast "Princeton in Athletics" at the Princeton Central Pennsylvania Alumni Banquet held in Harrisburg. Among the speakers were Dr. Patton, President Warfield of Lafayette, President Lamberton of Lehigh, and Governor Pattison.

Meanwhile he was doing faithful work in the Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in May 1892, being assigned honors in Old Testament Theology and reading a thesis on the subject at commencement.

Dr. Irvine had been supplying, during the latter part of his Seminary course, the Reformed Church of Smyrna, Delaware, and was elected by the congregation as pastor. While weighing the question of the acceptance of the call, he resigned as physical director of the College.

Previous to this the death of Dr. William M. Nevin, head of the English department of the college, had created a vacancy in the faculty. Therefore at the annual meeting of

WILLIAM MANN IRVINE, PH.D., LL.D.
1865–1928

Mrs. William Mann Irvine

the Board of Trustees of the college, held in commencement week of June 1892, President Stahr recommended the employment of a physical director to fill the vacancy caused by Irvine's resignation, and suggested that Mr. Irvine might be retained by appointing him, in addition to physical instructor, assistant professor of English literature. Dr. J. O. Miller, of the committee on instruction, reported in favor of the election of Irvine as "physical instructor, conductor of the gymnasium, and professor of such branches as might be assigned to him." This election naturally placed Dr. Irvine into the classroom at the opening of college in the fall of 1892. According to the *F. & M. Weekly* Professor Irvine, besides giving instructions in the gymnasium, had charge of English in all the classes except the Senior, and after Christmas of 1892 was expected to teach rhetoric, logic, and political economy as well.

The writer was one of Dr. Irvine's first students in Franklin and Marshall College. He will never forget this dynamic, enthusiastic young professor of twenty-seven as he sat at the desk from which the older professors had been delivering their lectures in orthodox fashion. Here was something different. He taught political economy on the basis of Walker's textbook as if his very soul depended upon the outcome. He had not been raised in the cloister; he had seen the struggles of the poor on the streets of New York. He had spent his summers securing help for poor boys and girls, and somehow political economy was more than a theory to him. He made us feel that it was a vital and practical study. Somehow his language and his attitude were different from anything to which we had been accustomed. It was not undignified, but it was direct, penetrating, and compelling. At the end of the hour he banged his fist on the desk, closed the book, and said, "Now, boys, go home and chew it up!"

The boys felt that Dr. Irvine was really and sincerely interested in every phase of their life, physical, mental, social, ethical, and spiritual. His interest in the promotion of public speaking among college boys is seen in the following:

"DR. IRVINE announced in chapel on Wednesday morning last that two friends of the College had paid in his hands two sums, one of one hundred and fifty and the other twenty-five dollars, as prizes to be given to the winners of contests to be held in the senior and sophomore classes respectively, the former in debate and the latter in oratory. The contests are to be held the week previous to commencement, and in the event of the success of the first series of contests the donors of the present prizes will fully endow them. The announcement of the prizes was no less a gratification to all than it was a surprise. These prizes have been secured entirely through the personal effort of Dr. Irvine, and reflect great credit upon his energy and enthusiasm. In the case of this permanent endowment the prize for debate will be by far the largest prize that is given during the College year. The students owe it to the College and to Dr. Irvine as well as to the Literary Societies and themselves to permanently secure for the institution these gifts by making the first contests fully worthy of the favor of the generous donor. The congratulations of all are extended to Dr. Irvine."[10]

During the year that Dr. Irvine taught at Franklin and Marshall College, Dr. Philip Schaff paid his famous visit to the synod meeting in Saint Paul's Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. It was the fiftieth anniversary of his career as a professor. He spoke feelingly of his first visit to Mercersburg and his many happy days there. Dr. Irvine was among his auditors on that day, as were all the members of the faculty and many of the students, of whom the writer of this story was one. It was an occasion never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it. Dr. Schaff made us all feel that Mercersburg not only had a glorious past but also held the possibilities of a great future for a man of vision, consecration, and energy. The writer has often wondered whether, as Dr. Schaff spoke, his voice almost overcome with emotion, the vision of that future for Mercersburg did not dawn upon the consciousness of Dr. Irvine. In any case, it was only a few months later that the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College held a special meeting, elected Dr. Irvine as President of the institution, and received his acceptance.

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[10] *F. & M. Weekly*, March 1, 1893.

The coeducational feature of the Mercersburg institution had been changed by the Board to one practically for young men and boys. It was understood that girls would not be received as boarders but might be received as day students. Two parallel courses were adopted, each covering three years: first, a regular academic course, consisting of classics, English, sciences, and mathematics, which would prepare students to enter any college in America; the second, or English course, was designed for those who wished to enter a technical college or university, or who desired to go into business. In other words, the Board had determined to make a first-class preparatory school, one that would be up to the standard of the best preparatory schools in the Middle States.

Ten days after Dr. Irvine's election on April 27, 1893, he went to Mercersburg to make a tour of inspection of the buildings of the institution, and on the following day met the Board of Regents at Chambersburg. He later said, "I submitted to the Board six general propositions relating to internal policy, organization, repairs, and equipment. After a somewhat stormy debate the propositions were accepted."[11]

During his stay in Lancaster Dr. Irvine had made many loyal friends in the community. Among his most enthusiastic admirers was Bernard J. McGrann. It was quite natural, therefore, that his son, Richard P. McGrann, should accompany Dr. Irvine on his first trip of inspection. It is altogether likely that he drove him down to Mercersburg, because the McGranns were famous horsemen. It is said that "upon going to Old Main Hall these two young men found the door to be locked; Richard procured a ladder, crawled into one of the windows, and opened the door from the inside to permit Dr. Irvine to enter."[12]

When he left Franklin and Marshall College in the spring of 1893, student opinion expressed itself. "While we regret to announce that Prof. Irvine expects to sever his connection with the College, we are glad that he has accepted the presidency of Mercersburg College. The gap that he will leave in our own College will be hard to fill. Prof. Irvine's position was a peculiar one, being related to all departments of college life. He has left a deep impress upon the College, and has done more than any other man in moulding the undergraduate life of the institution. We wish him success in his new career."[13]

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[11] Irvine Memorial Volume, p. 5.

[12] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* Fall, 1935.

And so, at twenty-eight, with youth, energy, vision, determination, and faith, William Mann Irvine tackled the hardest job of his life—the building of a new kind of school for boys—not a college or a theological seminary, or just another preparatory school, but an academy based on the educational ideals and methods of Old England and New England.

He had three old buildings with which to begin; practically no students; and very little encouragement. But he had a sense of appreciation of the fine traditions of Mercersburg's past, a remarkable knowledge of present-day needs for the education of boys, and an intuitive foresight, akin to spiritual vision, of the opportunities and potentialities of a first-class academy for boys in the heart of the beautiful and historic Cumberland Valley. He reminds one of the lad with the few loaves and fishes. Through the blessing of God, the faith and energy of a great leader, and, at the beginning, few but faithful followers, the miracle followed.

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[13] *F. & M. Weekly,* May 24, 1893.

SKETCHED BY DR. E. E. HIGBEE

CHAPTER XXIII

Mercersburg Academy: 1893-1903

AT the last annual commencement exercises of Mercersburg College held on Thursday morning, June 8, 1893, in the Reformed Church, Dr. William M. Irvine, the president-elect of the institution, was present and made a short address after the awarding of diplomas. The statement was then made that the Mercersburg institution would be opened on Wednesday, September 13, 1893, as a first-class academy, prepared to fit boys for any college in America. The New England preparatory schools were to serve as models for the new curriculum at Mercersburg. The buildings and grounds were to be put into proper repair. The faculty was to consist of William Mann Irvine, Ph.D., President and teacher of Greek and English, Charles V. Smith, a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, class of 1890, who was to have charge of Latin and Sciences, and J. Rauch Stein, first honor man in the class of 1893 in Franklin and Marshall College, who was to teach Mathematics, German, and History. Further announcement was made that " for the present the institution will be managed as an Academy, retaining the name of ' College ' by reason of the charter and certain gifts already made to the institution." [1]

The institution had charter, buildings, president and faculty, and prospectus, but no students. Dr. Irvine's work for the first summer was to serve as field agent for students. So he started in search of boys. " I secured four boys in the Shenandoah Valley, two at Mt. Crawford, Va., and two at Woodstock, Va. In those days railroad trains were few in number; when I had finished canvassing a town, rather than wait several hours for a regular train I telegraphed to headquarters and got permission to ride on the caboose of a freight train." [2]

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[1] Prospectus of Mercersburg College, 1893.

He worked so hard during that first summer that, when the school opened in the fall, he was too ill to be present at the opening exercises. But "Mercersburg College"—as it was still called—opened under its new president with forty students hailing from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. In addition there were ten or more students from Mercersburg and vicinity, and several "lady students," making a total of more than fifty.

True to tradition, the Board of Regents, faculty, and students marched in a body from the College Building (Old Main) to the Reformed Church at one o'clock. On the pulpit platform of the church were the Rev. W. M. Deatrick, D.D., the Rev. Ellis N. Kremer, the Rev. W. C. Cremer, and the Rev. J. B. Shontz. The opening address was delivered by the Rev. Ellis N. Kremer, of Harrisburg, Pa. In it he "spoke of some of the men who have gone out from the institution and impressed themselves on the community. It was the vigorous thought and the earnestness of the professors and students in addressing themselves to the questions of the day and an earnest search after the truth which has given to Mercersburg a name famed among scholars in America and Europe. One of the glories of the institution was that it held truth to be not simply an ideal truth but a real truth embodied in Him who is the truth and light.

"While in a certain sense the glory of Mercersburg lies in the past, the speaker, if he had a prophet's vision, would say that its greatest glory lies in the future. A new order of things is to be introduced. The purpose of the Board of Regents and the Faculty is to make what is learned, thoroughly learned. There is need for such an institution as this in this part of the State.

"He extended words of congratulation on the work that had been done and on the prospects of the institution, and referred to the fact that President Irvine had grown up under his care (at Bedford) and had been confirmed by him.

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[2] Irvine Memorial Volume, p. 5.

The Board of Regents are to be congratulated on securing his services." Then Dr. Kremer concluded by saying to the students: "You have a manly president. He will be a good disciplinarian, an able teacher and one whose heart will beat with all that is manly and all that is true. I hope that you too will be manly even though you are boys,—gentlemanly boys." [3]

So the first year of Dr. Irvine's administration began. There were now four professors, Oliver J. Morelock, one of the teachers at Palatinate College, having joined the trio previously announced in the prospectus. There were four acres of ground and three buildings—Old Main and North and South Cottages. The tuition charges were $200 for boarding students, $100 for working students, and $50 for day scholars.

A month after the school opened, the report of the Board of Regents at the meeting of Potomac Synod held at Gettysburg stated that expenses amounting to three thousand dollars had been incurred in repairs to the buildings since June. The halls had been wainscoted, repainted and papered from the basement story to the garret. New stairs were substituted for old ones. The rooms had been furnished with new furniture and carpets. The report concluded by saying that "the Board of Regents deems it desirable for the interests of the college that the membership of the Board should be increased from nine to fifteen members, and, if acceptable to the Synod, will make arrangements to have the Court of Franklin County, Pa., so change our charter as to make the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College consist of fifteen instead of nine regents." [4]

The Committee of Education of the Synod in commenting on Mercersburg College said: "The weeds of mourning have been laid aside, and the voice of rejoicing is heard through the land. Under the Presidency of W. Mann Irvine, and his efficient Faculty of young men, the old things, save the foundations laid of the fathers, have passed away, and behold all things are become new. The school flourishes and promises permanent success." [5]

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[3] *Reformed Church Messenger,* September 21, 1893.

[4] Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Gettysburg, October, 1893.

A further report was made to the effect that the Synod had secured for the repairs to the building nearly $1000, and for furnishing the rooms $700—this latter sum secured through the efforts of Professor Irvine.

The first social event of Dr. Irvine's administration at Mercersburg took place exactly one month after the opening of the school. It appears that Dr. Irvine and Richard P. McGrann, his first student, both had October 13 as their birthday. Accordingly they planned a reception given jointly in honor of the occasion. Fully 225 persons were present. The college buildings were elaborately trimmed with evergreens and lighted with Japanese lanterns. When the guests arrived on the evening train, the rain was descending in torrents and they had to be taken to the college in hacks. "There they were ushered in by Professors Stein, Smith and Morelock, Messrs. Charles Wood, Chambersburg; Bassler and Garrison, of Lancaster, and Schnebley, of Mercersburg, and presented to Dr. Irvine, Mr. McGrann, Mrs. Gillan and Mrs. Wood, of Chambersburg; Mrs. Shook, of Greencastle; Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Schnebley, Miss Irvine and Mrs. Black, of Mercersburg.

"After the guests had all arrived, an impromptu entertainment was given in the chapel, consisting of songs by the Glee Club, instrumental solo by Miss Rose, violin solo by Mr. Herbert Wood, selection by Mandolin and Guitar Club, and vocal selection by Dr. Irvine.

"Supper was served in the dining hall. Caterer C. W. Eckert, of Lancaster, Pa., with ten assistants prepared the supper." [6]

Before the opening of the second term, the school had boys of nine different religious denominations preparing for ten different colleges and universities. It had a glee and mandolin club, giving concerts in the chapel; it had a lecture course, and an athletic exhibit. These things followed in rapid

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] Quoted from the *Franklin Repository* by the *Reformed Church Messenger,* October 26, 1893.

succession. All students were compelled to become members of the Marshall or the Washington Irving Literary Society. Preparations were made for a Washington's Birthday public debate between the representatives of the two literary organizations. Tennis courts were laid out north of the college building. Meanwhile Dr. Irvine was receiving telegrams from Princeton asking him to come over and coach their football team. A board of editors was chosen to publish Mercersburg's first annual, known as the *Karux*. A song service was held on Sunday evening by students, and on each Sunday afternoon the boys gathered in the chapel, where they were drilled by Dr. Irvine and Professor Stein in the singing of hymns and songs. Field day sports were held in which thirteen events were closely contested, followed by a Thanksgiving dinner served to students and guests. Evidently life was not tame at Mercersburg in the fall and winter of 1893.

At the beginning of the second term, January 8, 1894, the total enrollment was sixty-four. The college building was full, and two boys were rooming in North Cottage. Gymnastic drills were instituted, led by President Irvine, Professor Stein giving the time at the piano. The members of the German class were all seated at one table in the dining room. A hare and hounds club was organized. The courses of study were expanded into a four-year curriculum to go into effect at once. The enthusiasm of Dr. Irvine was contagious. At the Southern Alumni Banquet of Franklin and Marshall College, held at Hagerstown on February 8, 1894, Dr. Irvine spoke forcibly of the important part which preparation plays in all the great processes and made his hearers feel the dignity of preparation and of a preparatory school. He told them that preparation must be thorough; sufficient time must be taken for it; boys must be forced to do hard work, and not be permitted to exercise their own choice and drop studies at their own will.

The first commencement under Dr. Irvine was an event of historic importance. On June 3, 1894, the baccalaureate sermon was preached by Professor R. C. Schiedt, of Franklin and Marshall College, from the text I Cor. 3: 11—" For other foundation can no man lay than is laid, which is Jesus

Christ." On Monday there was a tennis tournament. During the evening there was a prize contest in declamation, one of the prizes going to G. Leslie Omwake, Greencastle, who later became President of Ursinus College. On Tuesday, Class Day was celebrated. In the evening there was steps-singing. Then an address to the literary societies was delivered in the Reformed Church by the Attorney-General of Pennsylvania, W. U. Hensel, who said that all the traditions of his collegiate education ran back to Mercersburg. Then came the Alumni Banquet in the college dining hall, with the Hon. Rush Gillan as toastmaster. Prof. R. C. Schiedt spoke on the " American Boy." The Rev. J. B. Shontz spoke of Mercersburg in the days of Dr. E. E. Higbee. And Attorney-General Hensel said there was no better place to put a school than Mercersburg and paid a high compliment to President Irvine.

In his first annual report to the Board of Regents, meeting on Tuesday, President Irvine reported 78 students in attendance during the year, great improvements to the buildings and campus, and the addition of a fifth professor and two tutors. The Board declared that the amendment to the charter enabled them to elect six additional members. Agreeably to the amended charter, the Board elected the following men: George A. Wood, George O. Albright, W. Rush Gillan, John H. Shook, H. Wirt Shriver, and Seth Dickey. On Wednesday morning the commencement exercises were held. The first year had been a success, and it was generally felt that the historic institution at Mercersburg and its far-sighted president were now on a fair way toward the front.

Of course there were financial difficulties to be faced. Eighteen-ninety-three was a depression year. There was a deficit in the current expenses of the institution during the year amounting to $4500, due to repairs, improvements, erection of fire escapes, and the remodeling of the professor's house occupied by the president.

Within a year, however, the Board of Regents reported that the school was enjoying a patronage beyond the capacity of the buildings. The earnings of the school for the year ending June 1895 were $11,871.57. The total expenditures for school purposes were $10,560.83, showing earnings above expenses of $1310.74. Over $2000 had been expended during the year in repairs and furniture. South Cottage, formerly occupied by the Rev. Dr. Deatrick, had been repaired and refurnished, and six rooms had been furnished in the old preparatory building on the opposite side of the town. The Board determined to erect a new building, which was to connect with the present college building, and at the same time to put into the present building steam heat and water.

The catalogue for 1895 reported 116 students registered and eight professors and instructors on the faculty. New features during the year included the establishment of what came to be known as study hall, the object of which was to provide a means of breaking up the business of loafing during study periods. An effort was also made to introduce military training. The *Mercersburg Monthly* of March 1895 stated, " With the arrival of Professor William Hay in February there was instituted in the curriculum of the college a new department, namely that of military training and gymnastics. Professor Hay is a native of England and was for a number of years an army schoolmaster in the English regular army. He comes to Mercersburg from Bishops College School, Canada. It is hoped that in the near future we can have the use of the Diagnothian Hall for drill and calisthenic purposes." The first effort at military training must not have been eminently successful, for by September 1895 we find that military tactics were now under the direction of Mr. Floyd B. Knapp, a graduate of Fairfield Military Academy.

In 1896 the first new building was erected, adjoining the old college building on the south. On the first floor was the chapel or hall, with a seating capacity of 250; on the second floor were seven dormitories, a library, and recitation rooms; and on the third floor were the literary society halls. W. Rush Gillan, the President of the Board of Regents, in making his report to the Synod, said: " When we consider that it is but three years since Dr. Irvine took charge of this school, then without patronage and without equipment; that these three years have been marked by a financial depression, the like of which is not within our memories; that there have been those, during all that time who predicted a failure rather than a success; that we have now a school of over one hundred; a building with modern conveniences and fairly well equipped; that last year we sent from us forty-two students; that at the end of this school year we will send out thirty-five more, we cannot but say, 'Thanks be to Almighty God' that we have been permitted to have taken at least a part in the accomplishing of this great good."[7]

Judge Gillan aroused great enthusiasm when he announced at the alumni banquet held in connection with the 1897 commencement of the academy: "Tonight, for the first time in thirty years, Mercersburg College has no mortgage against it. We have made improvements, we have decreased our debt and now have $3000 of endowment."[8] By this he meant, of course, that on March 31, 1897, the Board of Regents had conveyed the property known as the Professor's House, at the southern side of the village of Mercersburg, to J. Montgomery Forster of Harrisburg, in consideration of the sum of $3000. With this money all the liens on the property were paid.

By 1898 there were 124 boarders and 24 day scholars, and the receipts above expenditures were $4874.41. The school was evidently finding its stride. In another year there were 172 students, and the Board had purchased three tracts of land adjoining the campus at a cost of $3966. On one of these lots there was in course of construction a building costing about $26,000, to be completed for the opening of the school year, September 1900. This building was to be known as the Sarah S. Keil Memorial Hall, in recognition of the very generous gift of her son.

Ground was broken for Keil Hall in 1899. On that occasion an address was made by D. Schley Schaff of Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Irvine's daughter Hart, three years of age, threw out the first shovelful of earth at the ground-breaking. By

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[7] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Altoona, Pennsylvania, October, 1896.

[8] *Reformed Church Messenger,* June 10, 1897.

Hon. W. Rush Gillan
President of the Board of Regents, 1895–1927

September 1900 Keil Hall was full of boys; it accommodated fifty students and three instructors. But the main feature of the building, the dining room, was not finished until October.

Friday, October 26, 1900, was a great day for the Mercersburg Academy. Potomac Synod was meeting in the village, and had set apart this one day for the dedication of the Sarah S. Keil Memorial Hall. The dedicatory services were held in the large dining hall, which at the time was probably unsurpassed by any hall of similar character.

We can do no better than to reprint in some detail the *Reformed Church Messenger's* description of the new building:

> This beautiful hall is named after a woman—a cultured, true woman, one devoted to good works and ideal as a mother. In loving and tender memory of his mother Mr. Jacob T. Keil, of Pittsburgh, Pa., presented to his Alma Mater the handsome sum which made possible the building of Keil Hall. Mercersburg at that time needed a friend; she found him in her own son. Mr. Keil's gift not only established a beautiful and fitting memorial to his mother, but assisted by the gifts of other friends it gives to Mercersburg her fairest building.
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> Keil Hall is built of brick and trimmed in colonial style, with Warsaw blue stone. The outlines of the building were designed by Mr. M. R. Rhoads, of Chambersburg, Pa. The hall contains twenty-six rooms for students, dining-room, kitchen, dish-closet, bake-room, wash-room, servants' dining-room, heating-cellar, store-room, lavatory, and room for gas machine. The inside measurements of the dining-room, not including bow-window, are 104 feet long, 42 feet wide, and 16 feet high. The dimensions of the kitchen are 30 feet by 44 feet. The contractor is Mr. M. R. Rhoads, and the building committee is composed of the following: Mr. J. W. Witherspoon, Chairman, Mr. G. A. Wood, Mr. Henry Spangler, Mr. John H. Shook, and the Rev. C. A. Santee. The cost of Keil Hall, not including furniture, was $45,000.
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> The original purpose was to finish the interior of the dining-room in Greek style. After careful study it was found

that a study which is purely Greek does not readily adapt itself either to utility or to high ornamentation. At the suggestion of Mr. Joseph M. Huston, who is an old college friend of Dr. Irvine, the "Baronial Gothic" style was adopted. Mr. Huston was just the man to give character to the room. In the autumn of 1898 he won national renown by designing the Court of Honor at the Philadelphia Peace Jubilee. Immediately thereafter he started on a tour around the world to study the various and best types of architecture. Mr. Huston's designs for this room brought high encomiums from several of the leading artists of America; they predicted that, when finished, the room in point of beauty would be the peer of any dining-room in this country.

A number of prominent decorative and constructive artists have worked with Mr. Huston in making the room a harmony of form and color. The elaborate wood carvings, with the exception of the panel over the fire-place, were made by Mr. William Russell, of Philadelphia. Mr. Russell for years has made all the carvings for the yachts, cruisers, and battleships built by Cramp & Sons. The frescoing, silk curtains, stained glass windows, mosaics, memorial tablet, etched plates, andirons and other hearth fixtures are the creation of Tiffany & Co., of New York City. Nearly all the features made by Tiffany & Co. were specially designed for this room by their head artist, Mr. R. T. de Quelin. The chandeliers were designed by the De Kosenko Company, of Philadelphia. The "Boar Hunt" panel was modeled in plaster by Mr. A. G. Calder, of Philadelphia. Mr. Calder received honorable mention at the Paris Exposition of 1900 for his "Narcissus." Mr. John J. Maene, who carved this panel, stands at the forefront of his profession. The panels on the wainscoting were made by Hollinger & Co., of Chambersburg. All wood finish in the room is antique quartered-oak. The wrought-iron grill was made by Shannon & Co., of Philadelphia.

The arms in favrile glass mosaic in the hearth are those of Gen. Hugh Mercer, the patron saint of Mercersburg Academy. Gen. Mercer was a member of Washington's staff; at the battle of Princeton he gave his life for his country.

The arms of his Alma Mater, the University of Aberdeen, appear on the right side of the mantel.

The mantel at the northern end of the dining-room is the gift of Mr. J. T. Keil. It has been said that it is the largest carved mantel in America. The "Boar Hunt" panel was three months in carving. The scene is in an old oak forest at sunset. The two hunters are in Elizabethan dress. The symbolism of the panel is "The advantage of Education"—the young lord-of-the-manor enjoys the opportunity of spearing the boar, while his unlettered valet is discomfited by being unhorsed.

The carved shields of sixteen leading European universities which appear on the pilasters are a notable collection. They cannot be matched on this side of the Atlantic. Careful inquiry at all the great libraries in this country revealed the astonishing fact that less than half of these arms could be found in America in print, color, or carved form. An extended correspondence was immediately begun with foreign ambassadors, consul-generals and chancellors of the different foreign universities, with the result that the sixteen sets of arms were secured, all of the universities expressing warmest thanks for the high honor bestowed by Mercersburg Academy, and many of them sending hand-painted copies of their arms.

These carved arms were paid for by Princeton graduates, friends of Mercersburg's president. The shields and donors are as follows: Bologna, the mother university of Europe, founded in 1088 A.D., presented by Col. John J. McCook, a Princeton trustee, of New York City; Salamanca, 1200 A.D., by Mr. Charles Scribner, Princeton, '75, editor of *Scribner's Monthly,* New York City; Paris, 1170 A.D., by members of Princeton '88 and '89; Vienna, 1365 A.D., by Mr. Charles W. McAlpin, Princeton '88, New York City; Heidelberg, 1385 A.D., by Mr. R. W. Meirs, Princeton '88, of Philadelphia; Leipzig, 1409 A.D., by Mr. B. F. Jones, Princeton '91, of Pittsburgh; Berlin, 1809 A.D., by Mr. B. S. Horne, Princeton '90, of Pittsburgh; Leyden, 1575 A.D., by Mr. C. C. Cuyler, Princeton '79, of New York City; Oxford, 12th century A.D., by Mr. Junius S. Morgan, Princeton '88, of Princeton, N. J.; Cambridge, 12th century A.D., by Mr. M. Taylor Pyne, Princeton '77, of Princeton, N. J.; Edinburgh, 1582 A.D., by the Hon. T. N. McCarter, Princeton '88, of Newark, N. J.; Aberdeen, 1494 A.D., by Mr. Richard P. McGrann, Mercersburg '94, Princeton '96, of Lancaster, Pa.; Trinity College, Dublin, 1592 A.D., by Mr. John Y. Boyd, Princeton '84, of Harrisburg, Pa.; Basle, 1460 A.D., by Mr. James H. Lockhart, Princeton '87, of Pittsburgh; the shields of Prague, 1347 A.D., and Padua, 1222 A.D., have been provided for only in part.

In the windows in stained glass are the shields of thirty-six American colleges and universities. Many of these institutions did not have a coat-of-arms. In such instances, in accordance with the rules of heraldry, the figures on the respective seals were used to create the arms.

The American institutions represented and donors of arms are as follows: Harvard, founded 1636 A.D., presented by Harvard Club, of New York City; Yale, 1701 A.D., by Yale Clubs of New York City and Pittsburgh; Columbia, 1754 A.D., by two alumni; Franklin and Marshall, 1787 A.D., by friends and alumni; Washington and Jefferson, 1802 A.D., by the W. and J. Club of Pittsburgh; Annapolis, 1845 A.D., by the Mercersburg boys of Pittsburgh; Washington and Lee, 1782 A.D., by Mr. Peter Keil, of Pittsburgh; Princeton, 1746 A.D., by Mr. S. Rodman Wanamaker, Princeton '86, of Philadelphia; University of California, 1869 A.D., by the Hon. Thomas R. Bard, of Hueneme, California; University of Pennsylvania, 1740 A.D., by Provost C. C. Harrison, of Philadelphia; "Old Marshall," 1836 A.D., "Rickli-Nevin window, donated in memory of Dr. W. Nevin by S. S. Rickli, Columbus, Ohio"; Amherst, 1821 A.D., "In memoriam, George W. Ziegler, by his son, George Fred Ziegler"; Dartmouth, 1770 A.D., by alumni; Lehigh, 1866 A.D., by President F. M. Drown, of South Bethlehem, Pa.; University of New York, 1831 A.D., by Trustees; Haverford, 1833 A.D., by alumni; West Point, 1802 A.D., solicited by Gen. Francis V. Greene, of New York City; State College, 1859 A.D., by alumni; Union, 1795 A.D., by the Union Club of New York

City; Ursinus, 1869 A.D., by friends and alumni; Wellesley, 1875 A.D., by Mrs. Charles Sigel, of Mercersburg; Wilson, 1869 A.D., by Trustees; Mercersburg, 1865 A.D., by Mr. Frank McGrann, Mercersburg '00, of Lancaster, Pa. The shields of William and Mary, University of Virginia, Bowdoin, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, University of Michigan, Hamilton, Williams, Lafayette, Dickinson, Johns Hopkins and University of Vermont, are provided for in part.[9]

In the year following the dedication of Keil Hall the Board of Regents bought the field upon which Laucks Hall and the outdoor theatre stand. The ground was purchased from the Hon. A. R. Schnebly. Two long narrow fields were also bought, extending from the Reformed parsonage straight up to the top of the hill, where the chapel was later to be constructed. The Board reported the most successful year under the present management.

" At the commencement exercises in June, a beautiful portrait in oil of James Buchanan was placed in the dining hall, the gift of his niece, Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston. The unveiling of this portrait was attended with proper ceremony, Mrs. Johnston and many others of the deceased President's relatives being present. In the afternoon of the same day, oil portraits of the Rev. Thomas G. Apple and the Rev. Dr. E. E. Higbee were unveiled in the chapel. These portraits were the gifts of former pupils of the school. The portrait of Dr. Apple was presented, on behalf of the donors, by the Rev. John C. Bowman, D.D., of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The portrait of Dr. Higbee was presented, on behalf of the donors, by Rev. George F. Mull, A.M., of Franklin and Marshall College." [10]

In June 1902 the portrait of Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh was presented to the school by his alumni. The presentation speech was made by the Rev. I. W. Hendricks of Bedford, Pennsylvania, and the unveiling ceremony was attended by Dr. Aughinbaugh, his family, and many of his friends. In 1902 the Board reported that seventy boys were graduated, sixty-five of whom had entered the different colleges of the country. By this time Mercersburg boys were found in thirty different colleges and professional schools of the country. All the school buildings were filled and a number of the boys were rooming in the village. Then the demand for a new dormitory became urgent. W. Rush Gillan reported, "In ten years the school has risen from obscurity to the fourth place numerically among boys' boarding schools of the United States."[11]

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[9] *Reformed Church Messenger,* November 1, 1900.

[10] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Huntington, Pennsylvania, October, 1901.

This chapter represents an attempt to trace the outward growth of Mercersburg Academy during the first decade of Dr. Irvine's headmastership. Judge Gillan gives a comprehensive summary of this first period in his 1903 report to Synod:

"Ten years ago Mercersburg College could have been summed up as follows:

"Fifty students, four instructors, one building, four acres of land, and a debt of almost $5,000. Now there are 327 students registered, while thirty were turned away for want of accommodation, twenty-five were under age and more than a dozen were unable to furnish proper recommendations. These students are from all parts of the United States. Last year eighty were graduated and the Senior class this year numbers about one hundred. Thirteen hundred different boys have been enrolled in the ten years.

"The faculty consists of twenty-one instructors who not only teach but have charge of athletic teams, all school publications, the literary societies, the study halls and the dormitories.

"Fourteen buildings are used by the school at present. Eight of these are overflow dormitories, cottages rented in the town for the accommodation of students until the new dormitory is completed.

"By the end of this school year improvements which cost $120,000 will have been made, with an indebtedness of $20,000. As a result of this expenditure, the college owns at this time sixty-three acres of land. North Cottage and South Cottage have been remodelled and enlarged. A large wing has been added to the Main Hall, including a chapel, class rooms, society halls and dormitories for students. Keil Hall, containing a handsome dining room, 42 by 104 feet, a kitchen and rooms for fifty-two students, has been erected. The Samuel A. Thomas Memorial Cage has been built. An athletic field and track have been acquired. A new dormitory, with accommodation for one hundred and twenty students, is being erected at present.

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[11] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, October, 1902.

" The thoroughness of the work done by the school is proved by the fact that our boys are found in forty colleges and on the honor rolls of ten of these.

" In addition to the stress placed upon the correct speaking and writing of English in the school, three literary societies are maintained and a weekly, a monthly and an annual are issued by the students.

" Regular work is done in oratory and in music. To meet the requirements of the latter department, a glee club, a mandolin and guitar club, and an orchestra are maintained.

" The school library contains three thousand volumes, and is becoming a working force in the training of the students.

" The athletic teams are under trained men at every practice period. Three football teams are maintained, giving exercise to sixty men. Forty men are doing track work. About twenty-five are playing basket ball, and the others are either taking calisthenics or military drill. In all these exercises the students are under the oversight of a competent trainer.

" For the welfare of the students an infirmary, attended by a trained nurse, is maintained.

" The following religious exercises are held at the school: Sunday morning and Vesper services, Y. M. C. A. prayer meeting, Bible study and daily chapel service. Last year $1100 were raised for Dr. Beam's salary. $100 were given as a personal gift to him, but will be expended for a microscope. $400 was given to the hospital in China and the school has made itself responsible for the salary of the head master of the new boys' school in China. The regular Sunday morning collection will be devoted to the education of Chinese boys (at $25 a year). The College has its own pastor this year. . . .

" A very important feature of the College life is the quiet work done by Mrs. Irvine. She calls upon all of the students and learns to know them. She also carries on an extensive correspondence with parents, thus gaining a certain insight into the students' natures to which instructors, by virtue of their positions cannot attain.

" The school makes it a point to help many worthy fellows of limited means. Fifty-seven such are at Mercersburg now working as table waiters, etc., and their presence is a great benefit to the others. A special table rate is offered to the sons of Reformed ministers and quite a number are availing themselves of the opportunity.

" For some years to come the school will not admit more than the present number of students. There are several reasons for this. The dormitories are now full. That personal contact between the head of the school and the student and parents which has meant so much in past years is almost impossible with a school larger than the present enrollment. The aim of the school is to be thorough, not large. That it could be large goes without saying, when we bear in mind that it is in third or fourth place in this country, and the number of boys turned away would have put it nearer the top. Thorough class work and full rounded development are being aimed at and each year sees additional progress in this line.

" We have made this report longer than any report heretofore made during the present management of the institution. We have done this in the hope that we may in this manner bring to the Church the full realization of the fact that this school, owned and controlled by this Synod, is doing a work for the church which entitles it to the hearty sympathy and full coöperation of every person within its bounds. The best way to speed the progress of the church and to advance the civilization of the world is by the Christian education of its boys." [12]

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[12] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Salisbury, North Carolina, October, 1903.

CHAPTER XXIV

Mercersburg Academy: 1904-1914

THE second decade of Dr. Irvine's administration at Mercersburg was begun with a confidence fully justified by the results of ten years' hard work. Students were beginning to be turned away for want of room. The 318 students who were fortunate enough to remain in the school came from all parts of the United States and represented twenty different religious denominations. The athletic teams, the musical clubs, the prize contests, the literary societies, and the school publications were actively at work under the supervision of Dr. Irvine and his twenty-one teachers. The course had been changed from one of four years' duration into one of five years, and the scholarship requirements had been made more difficult. Fifty additional acres of land had been purchased at a cost of $6800. A school infirmary had been built at a cost of $1500. In the first decade $140,000 had been spent in improvements. The net earnings for the school in 1903–1904 were $13,615.56. Sixty boys were being helped by reduction of tuition and board, some of them because they were the sons of ministers, or students for the ministry, and some of them because of the work they did about the place.

The most important building erected after Keil Hall was the dormitory for one hundred and twenty-five students, known as "Eighty-Eight." The largest subscription to this building was given by Thomas N. McCarter of Newark, New Jersey, who was a classmate of Dr. Irvine. His subscription amounted to $5000. Other subscriptions from the same class (Princeton '88) brought this amount up to $8000. The building, costing $41,000, was finished and occupied by students at the end of the spring vacation extending from March 19 to 28, 1904. "Dr. Irvine had been compelled to take the building off the hands of the contractor before it was finished. The boys who had been rooming in nine rented cottages in the village, on March 30 took up their abode in the new dormitory."[1]

The address at the ground-breaking had been made by Dr. C. J. Musser of Philadelphia. "The first shovelful of ground was thrown out by R. P. McGrann, '94, and the second shovelful by the Hon. Woodrow Wilson, at that time President of Princeton University. The architect of the building was J. M. Huston and the contractor was A. N. Brindle of Carlisle, Pa. On the evening of that same day, Dr. Wilson made an address in Keil Hall on 'American Citizenship.' In the early evening hours before the address, a large and unusually attractive parade was made through the streets of Mercersburg by the alumni, faculty, and undergraduates of the Academy. Many floats with beautiful symbolisms were brought into the parade. It was estimated that more than five thousand people came to see this parade and many of them to hear Dr. Wilson. The parade was in celebration of Dr. Irvine's tenth anniversary as Head Master."[2]

Before Dr. Irvine got through with one building he was at work on another. One of his early staunch friends had been Elder Israel Laucks of York, Pennsylvania. Mr. Laucks was one of the most unpretentious, generous souls that the writer has ever known. His words were few; his gifts were many. Few men ever got more joy from giving than did he.

When the Potomac Synod met at Chambersburg on October 20, 1905, the whole body of ministers and elders visited Mercersburg to help dedicate Laucks Hall. The exercises were held in Keil Hall because of the inclement weather. Dr. Henry H. Apple, the pastor of Trinity Church, York, speaking for the donor, said the new building was to be a memorial to the interest taken by Mr. Laucks in education.

Dr. Irvine, in accepting the building for the school, said: "Laucks Hall is named in honor of a splendid man, a man of signal ability in business, a man of sterling Christian char-

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[1] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, January, 1923.

[2] *Ibid.*, January, 1923.

WOODROW WILSON
At the Groundbreaking of "Eighty-Eight"

acter, a man with a big heart. To me personally, Mr. Laucks' generosity was particularly impressive and gracious. When I was seeking a large subscription to start Keil Hall, nine different persons were challenged before the subscription was obtained; a like number were challenged before a subscription was given to start the Eighty-Eight dormitory. Mr. Laucks was the first man challenged to start our new hall and his response was immediate. He was willing to share in the work of moulding young manhood." [3]

"Laucks Hall," said the *Alumni Quarterly* at the time of the dedication, "by reason of its beautiful architecture is one of the most attractive buildings on our campus. It was designed by Mr. T. P. Chandler, of Philadelphia, Pa., in Tudor-Gothic style; it is built of pressed and moulded brick; trimmed with Indiana lime-stone; its inside finish is of Georgia pine. Its dimensions are seventy feet by fifty feet. It contains twenty-four rooms for boys, bath and wash rooms, furnace room and storeroom. It accommodates forty-eight boys and two instructors. Special care was taken in designing, so that each room receives an abundance of light. Every room in the building contains at least three windows; the corner rooms each have five windows.

"This dormitory stands southeast of Eighty-Eight, thus forming an angle with the line of the other dormitories and facing the 'Oval.' A flag-stone walk connects it with the other buildings." [4]

Before Laucks Hall was dedicated, Dr. Irvine was actively at work on securing a new gymnasium. Two tracts of land were purchased. The first consisted of ten building lots southwest of the present Administration Building. The second was the tract upon which the gymnasium and the tennis-courts now stand. A little later two other tracts were bought; the first (lying south of the garage) is now occupied by the Administration Building, the second, at the southern end of the Academy estate, being used for forestry purposes and for farming crops.

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[3] *Ibid.*, November, 1906.

[4] *Ibid.*, November, 1906.

There was a general feeling on the Mercersburg campus that the next building to be erected would be a new gymnasium. From 1902 to 1908 efforts were made at various times to get started on the project. The site was selected. The plan for the construction of the building was completed. By November 1909 Dr. Irvine had subscriptions of $64,000, one-third of which had been secured by a thousand old Mercersburg boys. It was planned to have the ground-breaking for the gymnasium a feature of commencement week, June 1910.

The cage which stood near the track in the athletic field had been used as a temporary gymnasium for nine years. The time had come for a well equipped building. Along with the gymnasium Dr. Irvine had planned the building of a central power plant to supply heat and light to the Academy. The total cost was to be $140,000. Of this amount $82,000 had been subscribed by February 1910.

The idea was to put the building under roof by November 1910, and then allow it to stand and settle. It was to be finished and apparatus put into place by the spring of 1912. Dr. Irvine gave three or four days of each week to this work.

During the summer of 1911 the Court of Franklin County gave permission to enlarge the Board of Regents of the Mercersburg Academy (whose corporate name remained Mercersburg College) from fifteen to twenty-one members. Three of the new members were immediately chosen: Mr. Jacob Nolde of Reading, Pennsylvania, Mr. Richard H. Jamison of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and Mr. W. Harry Haller of Frederick, Maryland. Mr. Nolde, who was a well-known business man, had three sons in Mercersburg Academy at various times. One of these boys, the oldest of the three, Carl Lewis Nolde, who was a prominent member of the track team, died in March 1909, while he was a senior at the Academy. His father gave $25,000 toward the erection of the new gymnasium and the building was named the Carl Lewis Nolde Memorial Gymnasium.

The gymnasium was dedicated on October 24, 1912. "The academic procession was formed on the walk in front of the main buildings. At its head was the student body and teachers, led by the Wayne Band. Then followed the members of the Synod and other visitors. The Board of Regents, with Dr. Irvine and the speakers of the day, closed the line, which reached from Main Hall to the door of the gymnasium. When the students reached the entrance to the tower they parted and stood on either side of the walk. The visitors did the same. Then Dr. Irvine, with the speakers of the day, and the members of the Board of Regents, passed through the line and entered the gymnasium and took their places on the improvised platform.

" The audience completely filled the floor of the great hall in the gymnasium, which was wholly covered with chairs, arranged in compact sections. The decorations around the platform were of palms and cut flowers. Around the running track, half way up the wall, was a rich and varied display of gorgeous banners, won by the boys in many hard-fought contests with rival schools. The hall is well lighted. The finish of the walls and ceilings is in light and perfectly harmonious colors.

" The singing of the Academy boys was one of the charming features of the dedicatory service, which was as dignified and reverent as that of the consecration of a church. The oration of the day by Dr. Waters, of Brooklyn, was charming, instructive, and entertaining. He is a master of the platform. The memorial and dedicatory address by Dr. Irvine was chaste in style, lofty in ideals, and rich in Christian sentiment.

" Mercersburg is famous for its well planned and happily executed functions. This was one of her best. The day was a red letter one in her history." [5]

The following editorial, written by Dr. Lyman Abbott, appeared in the *Outlook* immediately following the dedication, on November 9, 1912:

" The development of secondary boarding-schools for boys in this country during the past few years has been notable. Old foundations, like the Phillips Academy at Andover and the Phillips Academy at Exeter, have gained in material and educational resources. Schools founded within the present generation, like St. Paul's, Groton, Hotchkiss, Lawrenceville, and The Hill School, have established themselves on permanent foundations. This result has sometimes been accomplished by devoted and clear-headed masters dealing with large bodies of alumni, and sometimes by men like Dr. John Meigs, who have the genius not only for teaching but for school-building. The Mercersburg Academy, in the beautiful Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania, has grown in like manner and for the same reason, Dr. and Mrs. Irvine bringing to a great opportunity the spirit of leadership, unselfish devotion, and tireless industry. The equipment of this school, which now numbers more than four hundred boys, has been materially enlarged by the building of an impressive and well-appointed gymnasium in memory of a Mercersburg boy, Carl Lewis Nolde by name. In his address of dedication Dr. Irvine spoke of him as a boy of 'clean, pure character, energetic, self-controlled, and faithful,' who died very near the day of his graduation, and of whom the head master said, 'Like a lighthouse, he simply kept shining.' A Mercersburg boy was one of the conspicuous winners in the Olympic games at Stockholm last summer. And the head master finely interpreted the spirit of the Academy when he declared of the new gymnasium that it was 'to tell the story of divinity in the human body.' The Rev. Dr. N. M. Waters, of Brooklyn, who also spoke, said that a man who develops his brain only is one-third of a man; the man who develops his soul only is one-third of a man; the man who develops his brain, his soul, and his body is a complete man; and he gave a vivid interpretation of the picture of the Mercersburg athlete which Mr. Blashfield is to paint on the walls of the trophy room in the gymnasium."

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[5] *Ibid.*, January, 1913.

"In style of architecture the building is Collegiate-Gothic. The exterior walls are built of dark rough brick, laid with wide mortar joints, and the building is trimmed with dark gray terra cotta and Warsaw blue stone. The inside walls are of very light buff Kittanning brick, and the building is fireproof throughout. . . . The overall dimensions of the building are 150 feet long and 105 feet deep. . . .

" The gymnasium contains the following rooms: The large exercise room, 100 feet by 60 feet, with running track and apparatus; the swimming room, with pool 75 feet by 30 feet by 8 feet; anthropometric room and private office for director of the gymnasium; locker room for boys; locker room for faculty; rooms for fencing, boxing, and wrestling; dressing rooms for visiting teams and home teams; trophy room, six sets of shower baths, tub room, janitor's room, large store room and seven storage closets; generator room for heating water for showers and pool, and drying room for wet clothing." [6]

And so we arrive at the end of the second decade of Dr. Irvine's administration. The Board of Regents in their report to the Potomac Synod meeting at Frederick, Maryland in October 1913 made the following summary of Dr. Irvine's work at Mercersburg in a score of years:

" The present administration is entering upon its twenty-first year. The growth of Mercersburg has been one of continued progress and blessing.

" When the present administration began there were four acres of ground. At the present time we hold one hundred and twenty acres. Fourteen different tracts have been added to the original four acres at a cost of $21,030.12.

" In the first year of the present administration, one building sufficed for our needs. In that one building, old Main Hall, we worked, ate, and slept, and taught and played and worked and worshiped. All the activities of the entire school were carried on under its roof. At the present time we have ten buildings in use, but in spite of that fact the growth of the school in certain respects keeps us cramped. These buildings and additions to our equipment have been added as follows: In the summer of 1893 Main Hall was repaired throughout and furnished for the opening of the school. In 1894, North Cottage was thoroughly repaired. In 1895, steam heat was placed in Main Hall. In 1896, the wing of the south end of Main Hall was erected. In 1898, South Cottage was enlarged and improvements were made to North Cottage. In 1899, Keil

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[6] *Ibid.*, January, 1913.

Hall was begun and placed under roof. In 1900, Keil Hall was finished and dedicated. In 1903, President Woodrow Wilson helped to break ground for the '88 Dormitory. In the fall of 1903, the small infirmary, or contagious hospital, was erected. In the spring of 1904, the '88 Dormitory was finished after the headmaster had taken it off the hands of the contractor, and one hundred and twenty who roomed in nine cottages in the town of Mercersburg were brought up and placed in the building, filling it from roof to foundation. In the fall and winter of 1905, at a cost of $5,000.00, the larger infirmary, known as 'Kelker Cottage,' was built. In 1906, Laucks Hall was built at a cost of $27,000.00. In 1907, at a cost of $4,000.00, the wing at Main Hall was extended eastward for a distance of fifteen feet in order to enlarge the size of the chapel and to give more room in the upper stories for boarders. In 1910, the power house was erected and since that time it has been furnishing a splendid quality of light to the buildings of the Academy. In June 1910 ground was broken with appropriate ceremonies for the Carl Lewis Nolde Memorial Gymnasium, Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, of Brooklyn, N. Y., being the orator of the occasion. In the summer of 1911, the building of the gymnasium was begun and by Christmas of that year it was placed under roof. In the summer of 1912, the building of the gymnasium was finished and in October of that year it was dedicated with appropriate ceremony. The total amount of betterment during the past twenty years, including additions to grounds, buildings, equipment and endowment, is $370,000.00. This does not include the amount yet necessary to finish the gymnasium and power plant.

"In the first year of the present administration eighty-two boys were enrolled. This was a larger number of students than had been in Mercersburg in any one of the previous fifteen years. The largest number enrolled in any subsequent year was in the school year of 1908–1909, when four hundred and fifty-three boys were enrolled. During the first year of the present administration young women living in the town of Mercersburg were received as day students. After that time no young women were enrolled. The total enrolment of students for the twenty years is three thousand, three hundred and seventy-six. Our records show that seventy-eight of them have died and that two thousand, three hundred and six of the grand total were enrolled during the past ten years. These boys have been gathered from all the states of the Union, with the exception of North Dakota and Mississippi, and from fifteen foreign countries, as follows: Mexico, Yucatan, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, Cuba, Porto Rico, Sweden, Spain, Syria, Persia, India, China, Japan and the Philippines.

"During these years, roughly speaking, about one-third of the total number of boys who were enrolled have been sent by Mercersburg Academy to ninety-three different colleges and universities, extending all the way from Geneva University in Switzerland and Pembroke College at Oxford University in England to the University of California and Leland Stanford, Jr., University, as well as to the University of Texas and the University of Havana. We doubt whether there is another preparatory school in America that can in the same length of time duplicate this record."

In speaking to the Potomac Synod on the facts contained in the report of the Board of Regents at the close of twenty years of his administration at Mercersburg, Dr. Irvine said: "The story of the growth of Mercersburg is simply the story of hard work, intelligent planning, and the richest blessings of Divine Providence." [7]

[7] *Ibid.*, January, 1913.

CHAPTER XXV

Mercersburg Academy in the World War

MERCERSBURG has been worthily represented in every war since the days when Hugh Mercer received his military commission in the French and Indian War, and later became a brigadier general in the American Revolutionary Army on the urgent recommendation of General George Washington. In the second war with Great Britain in 1812, men from Mercersburg were enlisted in the service of the army and navy. During the Mexican War, students from old Marshall College served under General Zachary Taylor at Monterey and Buena Vista, and under General Winfield Scott at Vera Cruz and Mexico City, from which they wrote letters back to their classmates inquiring about the literary societies, and sending trophies for the museums. During the Civil War, Mercersburg boys were found in the armies of the North and of the South. Mercersburg itself, as we have described, was the scene of many spectacular raids and was near the "underground railroad." It was associated with the thrilling events from the days of John Brown to the tragic hour of Antietam and Gettysburg. In the Spanish-American War of 1898 The Mercersburg Academy, though only five years in existence, was represented. In the conflict on the Mexican border, due to the raids of General Villa, the Academy had on its list of men active in the conflict:

'94	Henry W. Coulter	Major, 10th Regiment, Pennsylvania. This is the Pennsylvania regiment which fought at Manila.

’97	W. E. Drumheller	Lieutenant and Commissary, 3d squadron, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry.
’98	Wade T. Kline	Captain.
’03	Henry M. Gross	
’06	W. Heber Dithrich	First Lieutenant and Adjutant, 2d squadron, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry.
Ex. ’06	P. E. Kurzenknabe	2d squadron, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry.
Ex. ’06	D. A. Rupp	2d squadron, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry.
’06	W. M. Stewart	
’06	G. E. Wilkinson	Lieutenant, 1st Squadron Cavalry, New Jersey National Guard.
’07	J. Frank Graff, Jr.	First Lieutenant, Company K, 16th Regiment, Pennsylvania.
Ex. ’07	Joseph Richards	Battery A, Bethlehem Artillery, Pennsylvania.
Ex. ’09	Benjamin M. Africa	2d squadron, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry.
Ex. ’09	G. F. Poffenberger	Lieutenant, Co. M, 18th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry.
Ex. ’09	Wilbur E. Schell	Second Lieutenant, Company C, 10th Pennsylvania Infantry. Later in command of Company B, 20th Infantry, U. S.
Instructor		
’11–’13	C. E. Sweitzer	Co. L, 7th N. Y. N. G.
’13	L. P. Shepherd	Corporal, Company G, First Maryland Regiment.
’14	Fred M. Lee	Private, Battery A, First Massachusetts Regiment.
’14	M. A. Prentiss	
Ex. ’14	Robert Thomas	Company A, First Maryland.
Ex. ’15	C. W. Allsop	
Ex. ’15	C. S. Howard	Company A, First Maryland.
Ex. ’15	Guy H. Miller	
Ex. ’15	W. H. Oswald	
’15	Robert Stull	3d Pennsylvania Field Artillery.

Ex. '16	D. R. Berger	Company M, 18th Pennsylvania Artillery.
Ex. '16	Theodore Dale	
Ex. '16	Dwight Harrison, Jr.	
Ex. '16	Richard A. Keck	
Ex. '16	George A. Mark	Battery A, South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.
Ex. '16	R. B. Ogelsby	Troop C, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.
Ex. '16	W. A. Otto	Machine Gun Company, 1st Pennsylvania Infantry.
Ex. '16	H. S. Pownall	Sergeant, Company G, First Maryland Regiment.
'16	B. Leon Sheaffer	Corporal, Company K, 4th Pennsylvania Regiment, 7th Division.
Ex. '17	John E. Bailey	
Ex. '17	Clifford Jourdet	Second Lieutenant, Company A, 16th Pennsylvania Regiment.
Ex. '17	R. A. Martin	Company H, 10th Pennsylvania Infantry.
Ex. '17	L. A. Richards	
Ex. '17	G. P. Rodgers	Second Brigade, 18th Pennsylvania Regiment.
Ex. '19	Edward Watkins	Ambulance Company I, 7th Division, Pennsylvania.
Ex. '18	F. P. Carson[1]	

Anyone who was associated with a boys' school in America at the opening of the World War can visualize exactly what happened at Mercersburg Academy at the beginning of the conflict. When the boys came to school at the opening of the term in September 1914, just as the great drives on the western front were in progress, the excitement was intense. The spirit of restlessness in the hearts of the boys grew as the winter of 1914 and the spring of 1915 came on. Then letters began to come to Dr. and Mrs. Irvine from Mercersburg alumni who were already in the thick of the fight. These letters would in themselves form a volume of intense human interest, telling as they do the story of experiences all over the earth that today seem well-nigh impossible. The stories were told to the Headmaster in a personal and intimate way. It was like a son writing to a father or a mother. The writer wishes it were possible to publish all these letters. They are so revealing, so gloriously frank, so sadly tragic, so magnificently filled with the high-minded idealism and superb faith and courage of American youth at its best.

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[1] This list, admittedly incomplete, was published in the *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, October, 1916.

" There were seventeen hundred of these Mercersburg boys who served with the colors in the World War. They fought in forty-nine American divisions overseas and were in the ranks of four divisions on the American continent and on the high seas. Fifty-six gave their lives while wearing the uniform of their country; ninety-three were decorated or cited in orders; three received the highest and fourteen the second highest medals for acts of valor in the face of the enemy. Thirty-five other medals were conferred for heroic or distinguished services. This record, as far as can be ascertained, is relatively an unmatched one by any school or college. It is particularly significant, for Mercersburg Academy is in no sense a military institution." [2]

A number of Mercersburg boys enlisted in the service of the Allied forces before the United States entered the World War. Among the earlier letters received by Dr. Irvine was one dated December 10, 1915, from Allen Dale Smith, Jr., Ex. '06, who was in Canada at the beginning of the War and enlisted from Montreal, went to England with the 24th Battalion, and was sent to the front with the troops which Kitchener sent to the continent. In his letter to Dr. Irvine from the trenches in Flanders he wrote:

" Like many other 'unattached' and impossible young Americans, I had been looking enviously towards the European excitement for a long time, and last May when I found myself in Montreal for a visit, I heard of a regiment going to England at once, so I threw all discretion to the winds and joined up. I've had some fine young surprises, and innumerable jolts, but I can't pretend to be sorry that I came. We were training in England from May until September, and we have been doing our regular turn in the trenches since the 25th of September—just after the big drive at Lons. . . .

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[2] Joel T. Boone, Captain, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy, in the Foreword to Heefner, Daniel. *From Meaux to Compiegne,* Chambersburg, 1931.

"Is Col. Wills [a former disciplinarian at the Academy] still with you? I'd love to see the old Colonel over here—and he would have been glad to see me in various hot and dusty route marches over England last summer. I often recall the unhappy hours of 'guard' I walked for the Colonel's benefit—but they were better than hours I have spent recently on sentry post in the trenches—cold and wet and hungry and unhappy generally. It's all really very interesting and exciting, though, and if I should be so lucky as to get through alive, I'll never regret having come."[3]

The following summer Smith, the son of the president of a railroad company in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, received a severe shrapnel wound. While convalescing in England he wrote a letter to his father which contains one the finest descriptions extant of a Zeppelin raid over London:

"Just to prevent home-sickness for such of us as are temporarily exiled from the trenches, the powers that be have provided a little excitement in the way of Zeppelin raids. There have been four of these little affairs in the past ten days, and I have been fortunate enough to see two of them. Say what you will about the moral and ethical aspects of throwing H.E. bombs onto defenseless turnip-fields, it certainly makes a good show. . . . I had just gotten to bed Monday night when I heard some people running around outside—special constables, I afterwards found out,—waking up the population. When I got down, I found the street rather wide awake; all the people were out on their front porches, and I heard such things as: 'Hear that? Them's Zeps all right,' 'I see 'er,' 'O, maw, where is it?' 'Them's our guns shooting now. I 'opes they 'its 'em,' and much more of the same sort. Practically all the comment, mark you, was that of people interested in a ball game or a runaway or a dog-fight. This is the first time that I have been among the civil population during a 'Zep' raid, and I am convinced beyond any doubt, that so far as spreading any terror is concerned, the Zeppelin is a supreme fizzle. There were, of course, some few women in various stages of fright, but what do you expect from a mother with her young children holding on to her dress, and up there a machine that drops fire and death carelessly wherever it may? Absolutely everything makes for terror—the being awakened suddenly at night, the wild rumors that begin to pass with the first person out of bed, the Zeppelin overhead, invisible until the searchlights pick it up, the unmistakable drone of its engines, the sound of H.E. bombs exploding—the last one nearer than the one before—the flashes of the incendiary bombs, and pieces of anti-aircraft shell thudding into the earth all around, who would expect anything but a terrorized population? But there is little terror—so little that I, who have seen big men go crazy under shell-fire, could only wonder what blessed thing it was that kept these people calm and reasonable. . . .

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[3] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, February, 1916.

"All this aside, however, the Zep raid is a topping show. First, you see nothing, but hear the steady beat of the engines, far, far up, and very far away, but coming closer and growing louder all the time. Then, if it is a clear night, you will presently perceive a shadowy shape against the stars, dim, and almost shapeless, but unmistakably moving, and seeming to be tremendously big. And that is your Zep. She sends out an occasional rocket, perhaps as a signal to her sisters, and always you see the burning fuse of the bombs streaming down; then there is a 'boom' and a flash of light and—'How many kiddies that time?' you wonder. . . . Then the searchlights which have sprung up in dozens all over the horizon, pick her up, and expose her in an intensely white relief. She twists and turns, trying to get back into the dark, but once the searchlights have her, they never let her go. By now shells are breaking all around her, for all the world like fireflies flashing around a luminous cereus. Once she dips her nose slightly, and 'A hit!' 'Hit her again!' goes up from the audience, but she recovers, and calmly goes on, 'laying her eggs,' and always you see the fuses streak downward, and hear the sound of the explosion. . . ."[4]

When the spring of 1917 came, the scene shifted. Instead of individuals enlisting in British, French, and Russian service, the boys entered the service of the United States in large groups. It was a trying period for all the boys' schools in the country. There was a general feeling that the younger boys ought to remain at school, at least until the end of the term. A great many of the undergraduates as well as alumni enlisted during the summer, until there was hardly a camp in which a Mercersburg boy or teacher was not to be found.

For three years the Mercersburg boys had been fighting in Flanders, Russia, Mesopotamia, Italy, Persia, Dardanelles, Salonika,—now they were getting ready to go to France.

Soon they were found in every branch of the service. Meanwhile several hundred boys at the Academy took up optional military drill under Thomas W. Baker of the Regular Army of the United States.

With many of the alumni, aviation seemed to be the favorite branch for enlistment. Mercersburg had a strong aviation tradition, ever since Calbraith Perry Rodgers, one of her own sons, had the distinction of being the first man to fly from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and David Hugh McCulloch, Ex. '13, became instructor in flying in Brazil and Argentina and was engaged by the King of Italy as an instructor in the Italian Aviation Corps.

Three of the Mercersburg aviators who were widely heralded for war service were Courtney Campbell, "Ted" Meredith, and John G. Rothermel. The Associated Press told very directly of the supreme moment in the life of Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr., of Chicago, who was a volunteer aviator in the Lafayette Escadrille and already a holder of the Croix de Guerre: "Sergeant Andrew Campbell won in a fight with death with the chances a million to one against him while flying with the Lafayette Squadrilla yesterday afternoon. The lower wing of his airplane broke off when he was more than a mile high. Only his complete presence of mind

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[4] *Ibid.*, January, 1917.

Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr.
1891–1917. Mercersburg, '11.

and coolness saved him. Campbell threw all his controls on the other side and volplaned some distance to detach the floating remnants of the broken wing, which were beating against the body of the machine and threatening to dislocate everything. When he had succeeded he descended slowly on the remaining wing into a beet field without injury to himself. The slightest turn in the air would have meant death. This accident was preceded by the presentation of the American flag to the Squadrilla by an employee of the Treasury Department at Washington. Before the ceremony Campbell and others were promoted to sergeants for bravery during the recent operations. They, with others, have been operating along the whole front, where they drove off dozens of German fighting machines during the recent German offensive." [5]

Campbell was the first Mercersburg Academy boy to lose his life in the War. A special cable from Paris on October 10, 1917 announced the following citation in French army orders: "Andrew Courtney Campbell, sergeant-pilot with squadron 124; American citizen who volunteered for the duration of the war; ever since his arrival in the squadron he has given astonishing proof of bravery and extraordinary sangfroid; Oct. 1, 1917, he fell in a badly damaged aeroplane within the enemy lines after a hard combat against two enemy aeroplanes." [6] He had driven his plane into one of the enemy to save a French comrade, and fell with the German behind enemy lines near the town of Pargny. He was buried where he fell, and his grave was recovered in the Cambrai drive by General Byng.

His body now lies buried beneath the beautiful Lafayette Escadrille monument at St. Cloud. This spot was visited in 1930 by Mr. Daniel Heefner, then the Secretary of the Mercersburg Alumni Association, who describes the scene in his impressions of a visit to the resting places of Mercersburg's World War heroes, published under the title of *From Meaux to Compiegne:* "Our own Courtney Campbell's name appears on one side of this monument and his body lies beneath. The inscription at the top of the monument is: 'In memory of the heroes of the Escadrille Lafayette who died in defense of life and liberty.' This inscription appears in French on one side and in English on the other. It was dedicated 'to the Heralds of the American Conscience and The Pioneers of Her Mighty Effort in the World War, The Escadrille Lafayette, an Aviation Corps Composed of American Volunteers Officially Received as a Unit into the Army of France, April 20, 1916.' It is worth a trip to Paris to see this gorgeous piece of work."[7]

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[5] Quoted *ibid.,* October, 1917.

[6] Quoted *ibid.,* May, 1918.

Meanwhile all the schools of America were doing two things. On the one hand they were trying their best to keep going, by appealing to the patriotic duty of continuing classroom work on a high standard in preparation for the period of reconstruction which would follow the War. Dr. Irvine's theory was that boys under twenty could serve their country best by preparing themselves for future usefulness. In this attitude he had the full support of President Woodrow Wilson and the leading educators in America. On the other hand, the schools, including Mercersburg, placed near the chapel door their Roll of Honor on which was inscribed in illuminated letters the name of every alumnus who was in the service. Week after week this list grew, until it included 1700 names.

The experiences of these Mercersburg boys in the World War form one of the most thrilling narratives of modern times. The following extracts from a number of letters written to the Headmaster will give the reader a faint glimpse of the grim realities of war:

(1)

On the front one sees what a terrible and horrible thing war is. It is not what you folks in America think it is—fine order, nice, happy marching, the cheerful sound of bugles and inspiring music of military bands, and all that sort of thing. When they make an attack there is no music, the regular commands are forgotten, and the under-officers speak to their men like a comrade. Then they crawl out of their trenches, not with pretty uniforms on, but in all sorts of clothes, all smeared with mud and dirt, and then run for the next trench, if any such thing is left, through all the explosion of shells. . . .

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[7] Heefner, *op. cit.*, p. 43.

Now I will mention a few other things one also sees. The ground itself looks like a desert if dry, or a freshly plowed field if raining, except that it is full of shell holes and mounds of earth—not flat and smooth. You would also notice a terrible smell from the dead bodies turned up from previous attacks.

You would also notice shoes here and there with feet and parts of legs still sticking in them, also hands, arms, heads, internal parts of the body, etc. The other day they buried a fellow at one of the posts who was not even on the front in the trenches, but a member of a battery in the rear, who was hit by a shell; but wounded and dead on the front look the same. He was less than three feet long as he lay on the stretcher. Both his legs were gone, part of one arm remained and his face was smashed in. Another fellow looked as though some one had taken a rough saw and sawed him in half from head down, and then chopped up his flesh for sport. Another man from Algeria had his tongue torn out and face all ripped into shreds, plus other horrible body wounds.

I intended to change the subject, but it seems I can't forget these sights.[8]

(2)

I have left my ambulance for a while and am now medical officer to a battery of heavy guns. I much prefer the ambulance work as a permanent thing. In this job I am always in the shelling area and make daily trips around the batteries for the sick. It's not altogether a pleasant job, as batteries draw fire like anything, and are usually in uncovered spots. I shall be glad when I can go back to my unit. Can you imagine sleeping at night, and sleeping soundly, with hostile aircraft dropping bombs anywhere and shells falling into one's front yard, so to speak? Queer how one gets used to it. Of course, there's the chance of a shell dropping in, but if we stayed awake for it we would never sleep. In daytime one doesn't mind the shells so much, but even then it keeps a certain bow-string in your make-up pretty taut.[9]

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[8] John G. Rothermel, Ex. '16, in the *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* February, 1918.

(3)

The section of the line we have now is one of the worst gas sections there is and driving with a gas mask fitted tight on your face is difficult. This is not the worst of it for often after a gas attack, all along the road you will find dead horses and often we are compelled to stop and drag them to the side before being able to pass. . . .[10]

(4)

It looks as though there would be stiff fighting here all winter, and I am mighty keen to get back to it. I have only been in three " shows," while most of the other old chaps have had six or seven. I came out here two years ago as the junior buck private of the regiment, and last month I took my old platoon over the top. You don't know what that means, for you've never been the j.b.p. of a British battalion. Two of the officers who came with me in August have been killed.

All of the American troops have given a good impression —they are splendid physically, and all keen as mustard, and most of the officers are jolly good chaps. Too bad about the old Antilles, isn't it? It was a jolly comfy old boat. I made two trips on it.[11]

(5)

I suppose you people have read of Germany's great loss of Zeppelins the past few days. The papers here claim nine were bagged. Only yesterday I had the pleasure of seeing one of these captives where it landed on French soil practically intact. They sure are a wonderful and marvelous piece of work and beyond description here, but will tell about it when I get back. This one was over 600 feet long and carried a crew of

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[9] First Lieutenant Arthur M. Zinkham, M.R.C., '08, *ibid.*, February, 1918.

[10] Meade D. Detweiler, Ex. '16, to Thomas M. Jones, *ibid.*, February, 1918.

[11] Lieutenant A. Dale Smith, Ex. '07, to his father, A. D. Smith, *ibid.*, February, 1918.

43 men (one captain, 2 lieutenants, and 40 men). I never imagined such a thing and was glad to see it first handed, just as it lay after being forced down through lack of fuel.[12]

(6)

I commenced this work about six months ago as an operative working under the direction of the United States Department of Justice and since that time have received the commissions of Lieutenant, Captain and Inspector respectively. My appointment to rank of Inspector, a very recent one, places five Captains, forty Lieutenants and approximately six hundred men under my charge and while it is of course gratifying to receive recognition of this character, yet at the same time, it brings with it quite a heavy responsibility.

I may add in this connection that the Department of Justice at the present time stands between this country and an internal situation, the seriousness of which very few outside of official circles realize, and it has frequently thrilled me to note the wonderful whole-hearted and patriotic response from so many in the different voluntary branches of Government service, each in an earnest endeavor to contribute his bit to the management of the situation and also in preparing for the future. . . .

Among the most interesting cases we have handled are of course the spy cases, and we have been compelled to keep under almost constant surveillance those subject to alien permits, and as a result of this continuous activity on our part, it is interesting to note every once in a while the internment of those who fail to comply within their zone restrictions. While alien enemy activities have kept us pretty much on the hustle all over the country, it is also apropos to state that I. W. W. activities have also been the cause for grave concern although the latter situation by now is well in hand. An arrest of a particularly dangerous one of the above type fell to my lot a few evenings ago, and with fifty of my men, a raid was made for the purpose of serving a Federal warrant. The subject was a street speaker, a particularly vicious type, who had been breeding sedition to his heart's content for some considerable time. Over a period of about seven weeks I had men at every meeting and when the order was finally given to apprehend him, it was quite a pleasing thing to pull him off his box in the presence of his sluggers and listeners and later intern him. . . .[13]

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[12] Sergeant T. A. Eaton, Ex. '12, to his mother, *ibid.*, February, 1918.

(7)

I landed with my company last night in time for the Christmas eve celebration. We were not bothered much by the Hun artillery and had quite a time. Today we had a real old fashioned New England Christmas dinner—turkey, cranberries, potatoes, plum pudding, mince pie and tea, with two bottles of Irish stout, two cigars, 50 cigarettes per man and some fruit for a side issue. That doesn't sound much like a food shortage, does it?

The enemy must have received an infusion of Christmas spirit from some source for we have had a very quiet time so far today. Just an occasional ration of shrapnel to let us know the war is still on. . . .

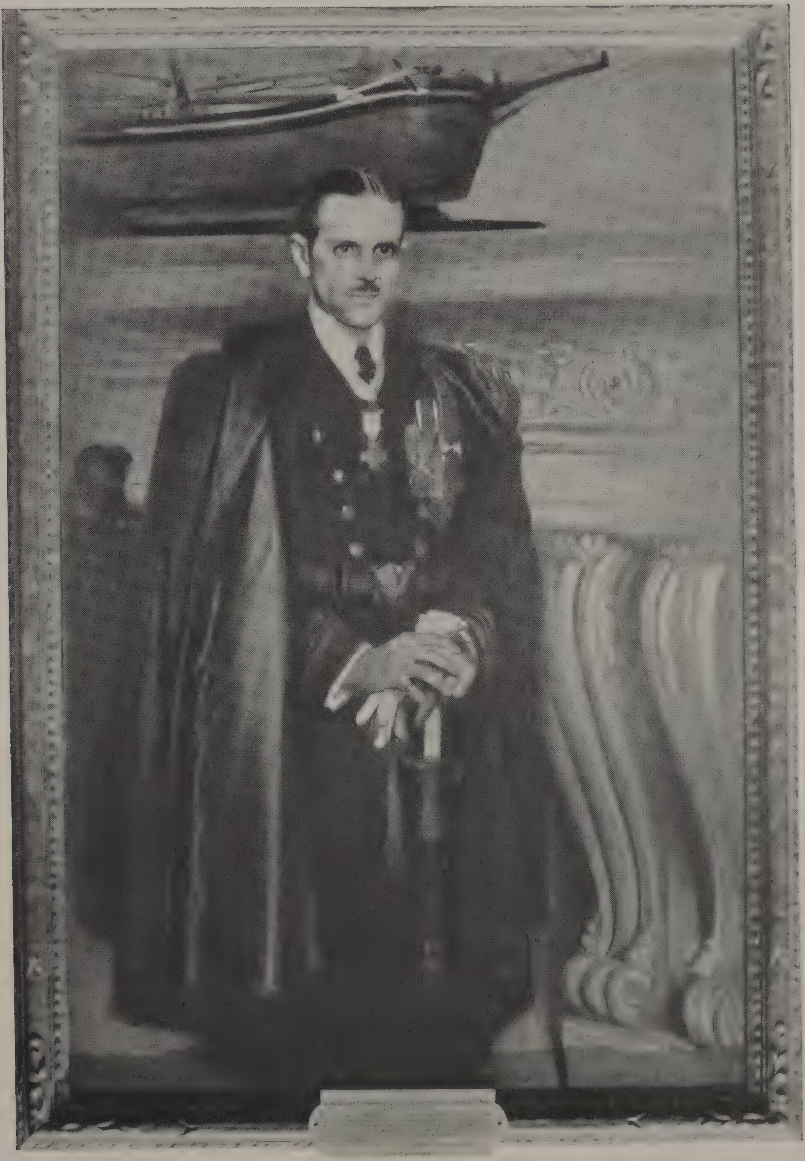
It's about 2 p.m. and I'm writing this by candle light in my little sheet iron hut. It is quite dark outside and a heavy sleet has been falling all day. The huts are plenty warm and dry enough and look pretty good after a tramp around outside in the mud and snow.[14]

Fifty-three of the Mercersburg alumni were decorated for valor. They received a total of ninety-three decorations. In the American Army and Navy with approximately four million enlisted men, only ninety-one Congressional Medals of Honor were given and Mercersburg boys received three of them. Three of the Mercersburg boys also received the French equivalent honor, the Medaille Militaire.

"The highest and most decorated Mercersburg alumnus is Dr. Joel T. Boone, '09, Captain (MC) U. S. Navy, the Physician to The White House [1930]. Doctor Boone's service is an enviable one, from his appointment in the Medical Reserve Corps on March 17, 1914, to the present time. On

[13] Russell Fellowes, Ex. '10, to Dr. Irvine, *ibid.*, February, 1918.

[14] R. E. McGonagle, Ex. '13, to Dr. Irvine, *ibid.*, May, 1918.



Dr. Joel T. Boone
Officer of the French Legion of Honor. Mercersburg, '09.

July 1, 1914, he was assigned to active duty and on April 22, 1915, he was appointed to the Medical Corps (regular) as an Assistant Surgeon with the rank of Lieutenant (junior grade). On March 7, 1918, he was appointed to Passed Assistant Surgeon with the rank of Lieutenant. He was promoted from September 1, 1918, to Lieutenant Commander (temporary), and from July 2, 1922, to Lieutenant Commander (permanent), and from March 6, 1929, he was promoted to Captain, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy. For his services in the American Expeditionary Forces he was recommended for the following United States decorations: Congressional Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Medal; Distinguished Service Cross, U. S. Army, June 1918, at Belleau Wood; September 1918 at Thiaucourt, St. Mihiel offensive; October 1918 at Mont Blanc, Champagne Offensive. He received his French decorations for his work in July 1918 at Vierzy, Soissons Offensive, and for his services in October 1918 at Mont Blanc, Champagne Offensive. Doctor Boone's awards are as follows: Congressional Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Cross; Croix de Guerre, with palm, for acts cited in July; Croix de Guerre, with palm, for acts cited in October; Italian War Cross; French Fourragère in colors of Croix de Guerre; cited in Divisional Orders No. 88, 2nd Division (three times); cited in General Orders of the Army by General Pershing. He served on the battle front constantly from March, 1918, until the Armistice and went into Germany with the Army of Occupation." [15]

Captain Boone was named by France to the Legion of Honor, being nominated by Marshal Pétain, Chief of the Armies of France. This fact probably gives Captain Boone the distinction of being the most decorated man in the United States Navy as well as in the body of 1770 Mercersburg Academy alumni who served in the World War.

A second Mercersburg alumnus to hold the Congressional Medal of Honor was Wilbert W. White, Jr., Ex. '07, Second Lieutenant in the 147th Aero Squadron, Flight Commander, U. S. Air Service. He was credited with six Boche planes and two balloons brought down, of which seven were confirmed officially. He was killed October 10, 1918, while protecting a comrade from a Fokker plane. He rushed straight upon the German at a height of 3000 meters and they landed fifty feet apart. White also received the D.S.C. for intrepid courage and extraordinary heroism September 14, 1918, while protecting three Allied observation balloons. He was also awarded the Croix de Guerre and a French citation.

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[15] Heefner, *op. cit.*, pp. 27–29.

Ralph Talbot, '16, Second Lieutenant, U. S. M. C., was the third recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. His military record, taken from the archives of the War Department at Washington, follows:

" Ralph Talbot enlisted in the Navy as a Seaman, Second Class, on October 26, 1917. On January 1, 1918, he was appointed a Chief Quartermaster in the Navy, and on April 8, 1918, was enrolled as an Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve Force (Air Service), and assigned to duty at the Naval Air Station, Miami, Fla.

" On May 25, 1918, he was disenrolled from the Naval Reserve Force and on the following day enrolled as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve Flying Corps and assigned to duty with the First Marine Aviation Force on July 17, 1918, arrived at Brest, France, on July 31, and disembarked August 1, 1918.

" On August 7, 1918, he was assigned to duty with the Northern Bombing Group. On October 8, 1918, he participated in an air raid into enemy territory, and when attacked by nine enemy scouts, he shot down an enemy plane. On October 14, 1918, he participated in an air raid over Pittham, Belgium. Separated from the formation of planes participating in the raid, he was attacked by twelve enemy scouts. During the severe fight that followed, he shot down two enemy planes. On October 25, 1918, while attached to the 9th Squadron, Day Wing, Northern Bombing Group, the plane that Lieutenant Talbot was piloting crashed to the earth and took fire, causing his death." [16]

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[16] Quoted in *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, July, 1926.

WILBERT W. WHITE, JR.

1890–1918. Flight Commander, 147th Aero Squadron, U. S. Air Service.
Mercersburg, '07.

On November 11, 1920, Lieutenant Talbot was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for service above and beyond the call of duty during the War, the following citation accompanying the award:

" For exceptionally meritorious service and extraordinary heroism while attached to Squadron ' C ' First Marine Aviation Force in France. He participated in numerous air raids into enemy territory, and on October 8, 1918, while on such a raid, he was attacked by nine enemy scouts, and in the fight which followed, shot down an enemy plane. Also, on October 14, 1918, while on an air raid over Pittham, Belgium, Lieutenant Talbot and one other plane became detached from the formation due to loss of power by motor, and were attacked by twelve enemy scouts. During the severe fight that followed, his plane was shot down by one of the enemy scouts. His observer was shot through the elbow and his gun jammed. He cleared the jam with one hand while Lieutenant Talbot maneuvered to gain time, and then returned to the fight. The observer fought on until shot twice in the stomach and once in the hip. When he collapsed, Lieutenant Talbot attacked the nearest enemy scout with his front guns and shot him down. With his observer unconscious and his motor failing he dived to escape the balance of the enemy and crossed the German trenches at an altitude of fifty feet, landing at the nearest hospital, and left his observer and returned alone to his aerodrome."[17]

A list of Mercersburg alumni receiving decorations or citations for their services in the Great War follows:

Congressional Medal of Honor:
    Joel T. Boone, '09
    Ralph Talbot, '16
    Wilbert W. White, Jr., Ex. '07
Medaille Militaire:
    Andrew Courtney Campbell, Ex. '11
    Thomas Barry Cantwell, Ex. '16
    Andres M. Jones, Ex. '15

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[17] Quoted *ibid.*, July, 1926.

D.S.O. and British Military Cross:

Charles W. Maxson, '06

Croix de Guerre:

R. Bertron Bew, Ex. '16
Ross H. Boas, '08
Joel T. Boone, '09 (two palms)
W. H. Bovey, '13
Guy E. Bowerman, Ex. '17
Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr., Ex. '11
Thomas Barry Cantwell, Ex. '16 (awarded twice; two palms and silver star)
Frank S. Clowney, Ex. '15
Harvey Conover, Ex. '13
Stephen R. Faatz, '17
Percival O. Fendrick, '11
Fred A. Hannah, '07
Carlton T. Harris, Ex. '11
C. Porter Kuykendall, Ex. '15
Richard Oller, '14 (one palm)
Alphonse Padilla, '08
Clinton Victor Pickering, Ex. '14 (gilt star)
John G. Rothermel, Ex. '16
Frederick L. Tracy, Ex. '15
Joseph J. Ulmer, Ex. '19
Wilbert W. White, Jr., Ex. '07
James William Witherspoon, '12

Distinguished Service Cross:

Ross H. Boas, '08
Joel T. Boone, '09 (twice)
Harvey Conover, Ex. '13
Stephen R. Faatz, '17
Benjamin H. Hewit, '01
Edward A. MacMillan, Ex. '11
D. A. Patterson, Ex. '21
Keller E. Rockey, '05
Ralph L. Schiesswohl, '12
Alexander N. Stark, Jr., '17 (recommended for Congressional Medal of Honor)
Wilbert W. White, Jr., Ex. '07

Ralph Talbot

Second Lieutenant, U. S. Marine Corps. Reserve Flying Corps attached to British Army in Belgium. Winner of Congressional Medal of Honor. Mercersburg, '16.

Distinguished Service Medal:
- Joel T. Boone, '09
- C. Gordon Brownville, Ex. '17
- Harvey Conover, Ex. '13
- James Coyle Kennedy, '11

Medal of Honor of the Navy and Marine Corps:
- Joel T. Boone, '09
- Ralph Talbot, '16

Croce al Merito di Guerra:
- Donald L. Atwater, Ex. '19
- Joel T. Boone, '09
- Meade D. Detweiler, Ex. '16 (first American decorated by Italian government)
- Murray B. Schroeder, '14

Special Decorations:
- Kenneth Bell, Ex. '16: "Golden Eagle of Italy," Italian aviation insignia
- Joel T. Boone, '09: French Fourragère in colors
- James Arthur Gamman, '00 (French Foreign Legion): Fourrogère Rouge; also rosette combining all the colors of all the allies and given by the combined armies of the western front to the thirty per cent. surviving the fierce charge at Amiens, April 26, 1918
- Alexander N. Stark, Jr., '17: Belgian Medal of Honor

Special Citations:
- Elbert C. Baker, Ex. '11: recommended for D.S.C.
- Joel T. Boone, '09: divisional citation, three times; cited by General Pershing in general army orders, once
- W. H. Bovey, '13: divisional citation
- Elliott Brockelbank, Ex. '17: divisional citation
- William F. Caldwell, Ex. '14: recommended for D.S.C.
- Robert C. Churchill, '09
- Frank S. Clowney, Ex. '15: two citations

Meade D. Detweiler, Ex. '16: one French citation, two Italian
Rollo C. Ditto, '03: two citations
Percival O. Fendrick, '11: citation signed by Marshal Pétain
John K. Hammitt, Ex. '08: recommended for D.S.C.
Fred A. Hannah, '07: two citations
Arthur C. Heller, Ex. '20: citation cord granted to all members of 5th Regiment, U. S. M. C. for exceptional bravery at Belleau Wood
Kuper Hood, Jr., Ex. '19: cited in official order by Major General Farnsworth
Henry C. Long, '15: cited and commended
Charles W. Longmore, Ex. '17
Edward A. MacMillan, Ex. '11: special citation
Herbert W. Peart, Ex. '15
George Thomas Price, Ex. '16
John R. Ruthrauff, Ex. '15
Parker R. Skinner, '03
William H. Smith, Ex. '11: recommended for D.S.C.; especially commended and cited in report to Government
John R. Sproul, '13
Wilbert W. White, Jr., Ex. '07[18]

The realization that war was not all honor and decoration soon came to the Headmaster as the casualty list grew. By the end of the War fifty-six Mercersburg alumni had laid down their lives for their country. The glory and the tragedy of it all weighed heavily on the heart of Dr. Irvine, as his many letters of sympathy to stricken parents indicate only too clearly. He was proud of his boys. His one desire was to enshrine the memory of their lives and deeds on the hill at Mercersburg in a chapel that would symbolize everything that was good and true and beautiful in the lives of these young men.

[18] This list is based mainly upon that appearing *ibid.*, April, 1920.

George Nathan Althouse
First Lieutenant, 315th Infantry, U. S. Army. Mercersburg, '11.

The following are the names of the Mercersburg alumni whose bodies lie in France:

Elbert Curtiss Baker, '11, 1st Lt., 371st Inf.
Basil Ball, '15, Med. Det., 9th M. C. Bn.
Timothy Lawrence Barber, '09, Captain, U. S. Medical Corps Surgeon, 2nd Bn., 313th Regiment
Oliver Thomas Beauchamp, '17, 1st Lt., 27th U. S. Aero Squadron
Harry Boorn, '15, 199th Battalion, Irish Canadian Rangers
Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr., '11, Sgt. Pilot, Lafayette Escadrille
George Chandler, '06, 2nd Lt., Balloon Service
Theodore Oliver Dale, '16, Pvt., Co. F, 103rd Inf., 28th Div.
Benjamin Hartley Hewit, '01, Captain, Co. F, 316th Inf., 79th Div.
Donald Johnston, '10, 1st Lt., 104th Aero Squadron
J. Lawrence Layton, '12, 1st Lt., F. R., Escadrille 77
Paul Warren Lindsley, '18, 1st Lt., U. S. Air Force 3rd Aviation Instruction Center, France
Francis Robbins McCook, '10, Captain, Co. B, 134th M. G. Bn.
Leland C. Mead, '08, Medical Det., 361st Inf., 91st Div.
James Peebles Over, '07, 1st Lt., Co. K, 47th Inf.
Herbert William Peart, '15, 1st Lt., Co. M, 103rd Inf.
Raymond Booth Scranton, '09, Pvt., Co. B, 39th Engrs.
Frank William Sidler, '15, 1st Lt., U. S. Air Force
John Stone, '06, 1st Lt., U. S. Aviation Corps
Jefferson Davis Vincent, '06, Lt., U. S. Army
Wilbert Wallace White, Jr., '07, 2nd Lt., 147 Aero Squad, U. S. Air Service
DuPont LaMott Wolf, '18, Cpl., 117th Trench Mortar Battery, 42nd Div.

The bodies of the following who made the supreme sacrifice were returned to the United States for re-interment:

George Nathan Althouse, '11, 1st Lt., Co. H, 315th Inf.
Edward Hart Bair, Jr., '16, Orderly, Hdqrs. Co., 110th Inf.
Kenneth Bell, '16, 28th Squadron, U. S. Air Force
Joseph Richard Caldwell, '16, 2nd Lt., 67th Co., 5th Regt., U. S. Marine Corps
Enoch Arden Calvert, '18, Pvt. Icl., Advance Medical Supply Det.
Edward Cary Eichelberger, '07, Qm. 2cl, U. S. Naval Aviation
Edward Monroe Elder, '17, Co. B, 343rd Supply Train
James Galt Elder, '14, 2nd Lt., Co. D, 47th Inf.

Albert Eccles Hamilton, '16, Pvt., Co. F, 307th Inf.
Fred Arthur Hannah, '07, S. S. U. 635, American Ambulance Unit.
George Franklin Poffenberger, '09, 1st Lt., Hdqrs. Co., 111th Inf., 28th Div.
Rodney Willard Polack, '05, 1st Lt., Co. D, 60th Inf.
Edwin G. Powell, '15, Pvt., 315th M. G. Bn., 79th Div.
John Reading Schley, '15, 1st Lt., U. S. Aviation Corps
Ralph Talbot, '16, 2nd Lt., U. S. Marine Corps, Naval Aviation

The following men passed away while in training in the United States:

George Alexander Baker, '14, U. S. Engrs., Officers' Training School, Washington, D. C.
Clarence Booty Brooks, '15, No record. Died 1918 in one of Army Training Camps
Donald Augustus Carter, '17, Member Massachusetts Homeopathic Hospital Unit No. 39, U. S. Regular Army
James Lloyd Churchell, '11, Died at Pensacola, Fla., Aug. 13, 1918
L. Earl Eisensmith, '16, 1st Lt., Engr. Corps, U. S. A.
Clarence John Gerken, '13, Chief Machinist, U. S. N. Reserve Force, Submarine Patrol Service
James Joseph Gray, '15, Ensign, U. S. N. R. Force, Naval Flying Corps
Joseph Guzman, '14, 2nd Lt., Inf. in Porto Rico Regt., U. S. Army
David Paul Harnish, '18, S. A. T. C. at F. & M. College
Raymond Brown Harnish, '19, U. S. Signal Corps, Radio Telegraphy, Lehigh University
Herbert Denig Harry, '07, U. S. Army
Harry Frederick Janssen, '10, U. S. Army at Camp Meade
Thomas Victor Keefe, '08, 2nd Lt., F. A., 1st Regt., F. A. R. D., Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky.
Ross Padgitt, '15, Captain, U. S. Ordnance Dept.
Grandville LeMoyne Sargeant, '17, Aviation Section, U. S. Signal Corps
Alan Dale Smith, '07, 2nd Lt., Canadian E. F.
Lea Danenhower Williams, '12, 2nd Lt., Cavalry, U. S. Army
Walter Scott Wood, '16, Member of Co. D, Pa. Engrs., 28th Div.[19]

While the Chapel was ultimately to be the great memorial to the sons of Mercersburg, there were more immediate expressions of the Academy's desire to commemorate the valor of its sons.

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[19] Heefner, *op. cit.*, pp. 20–25.

When the Reformed Church, recalling its Huguenot representatives of earlier days, erected a Memorial House of Worship in Château-Thierry, Mercersburg Academy was associated with at least three memorials in the church. The altar was erected in memory of Lieutenant George Nathan Althouse, '11, who died while leading his troops on September 28, 1918, at Nantallois, France; a pew in the sanctuary at Château-Thierry is a memorial to Edward H. Bair, Jr., '16. The whole Academy joined in purchasing the memorial bell, concerning which the French Ambassador to the United States, Jules Jusserand, said: "There is at Château-Thierry, that place famous in the annals of American participation in the last war, a bell presented to the city by the pupils of The Mercersburg School, Pennsylvania. Few bells in France speak English but that one does, and in the words devised for it by that warm-hearted diplomat and poet, Henry van Dyke, it says:

THE MERCERSBURG SCHOOL BELL AT CHATEAU-THIERRY

A peaceful school in America
sent many of her sons to France
to defend the liberty of the world
For them and their allied comrades
Ring clearly gratefully O Bell
Ring of courage honor and immortal hope."

"The French translation is:

"*Une pacifique école américaine envoya beaucoup de ses fils en France afin qu'ils défendissent la liberté du monde.*

"*Pour eux et leurs camarades alliés, sonne d'une voix claire o cloche, sonne avec reconnaissance;*

"*Sonne le courage, l'honneur, l'immortelle espérance.*

"The bell was made by the noted bell manufacturers, Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, England, the makers of the

Mercersburg carillon. It weighs 560 pounds and is twenty-nine inches in diameter. The French translation was made by Ambassador Jusserand for the Academy." [20]

After the World War was over, a memorial service was held by Dr. Irvine on Sunday evening, June 1, 1919, in honor of the Mercersburg boys who gave their lives for the Allied cause. At that time he had not secured data concerning more than forty-eight boys whose names were placed on the High Honor Roll.

"Like the knights of old," said Dr. Irvine, "they went forth on a great quest. They held aloft the torch of life and waved it. They added to the spiritual wealth of humanity. By the very manner of their going they gave us an assurance of immortality. Over our school and national life they shed a golden light. They were convoyed by the angels because they died in so great a cause. They proved that love always carries with it the possibility of suffering, that dying is triumphing. In their going from us they made clear what the Master meant when He said: 'Greater love hath no man than this that he lay down his life for his friends.'

"We can say of them in the words of one of our own Mercersburg poets:

'Valor and strength the thought of them shall give,
Fame on their brows her coronal shall set;
All save their courage will the world forget,
Among the perishing their souls shall live.'" [21]

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[20] *Ibid.*, pp. 45–47.

[21] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, July, 1919.

CHAPTER XXVI

Dr. Irvine's Last Decade

DURING the World War period, Dr. Irvine celebrated his fiftieth birthday. He was bracing himself for the greatest work of his life—a work which temporarily had to be postponed: the building of the Academy Chapel.

On his fiftieth birthday the boys of the Academy gathered in front of North Cottage, gave a rousing cheer, and greeted him with the following statement:

> "*Dr. Irvine:*
>
> "We, the boys of The Mercersburg Academy, wish to express on this, your fiftieth birthday, the high respect and affectionate regard we have for you. To you were given, in early years, great powers of body and mind and heart; and we know that it was only because you nobly developed those powers, that this school, and our presence here are possible. We realize the great work you have done in the material upbuilding of Mercersburg, and we honor you for it; but, in a deeper sense, we honor you for living out splendidly a life of service and honor, and for standing for those qualities which we admire most in manhood.
>
> "And, if in the coming years, this scene and those gathered before you in friendship tonight be recalled, know also that we shall remember; and that among the things which our hearts will forever treasure and cherish, your memory will be found.
>
> "THE STUDENT BODY OF THE MERCERSBURG ACADEMY."[1]

The Board of Regents in 1915 reported the enrollment of a full school and the maintenance of high standards. The

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[1] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* February, 1916.

Board likewise voted to create the William Mann Irvine Headmastership Endowment Fund, the amount of endowment to be $150,000 stating that the school was sorely in need of endowment to anchor it.

A year later, in June 1916, the total enrollment was slightly below that of previous years. Mercersburg like many other schools in the country, was feeling the effects of the European War. But by September there was again an overflow of students; two extra cottages had to be opened and the faculty had to be enlarged.

On account of the conditions brought on by the War, the school was closed on May 28, 1917, about ten days earlier than the time previously announced. It was announced that Mercersburg had sent boys up to that time to 101 different colleges and universities. The ninty-ninth on the list was the University of Hawaii, the hundredth the University of Manitoba, and the hundred-and-first the Technical Institute of Alabama. Nearly every state was represented in the student body of 400, and boys were enrolled from Brazil, Cuba, Japan, Mexico, Porto Rico, and Greece. There were in the school also four American Indians, one of them a lineal descendant of Tecumseh, the great Indian chief. These boys were beneficiaries of Rodman Wanamaker, who wanted to prove to the people of the country that the Indian boy was able to receive and benefit by higher education. During the year an attractive porch was built in front of North Cottage. The school reported no indebtedness except such as was contracted for current expenses. The year marked the silver anniversary of Dr. Irvine's administration. Up to this time 4663 boys had been enrolled under him, and Mercersburg was the third largest boys' school of its type in the United States.

The *Mercersburg News* published an undergraduate appreciation of Dr. Irvine, entitled " After Twenty-Five Years," during commencement week of 1918, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the headmastership of Dr. Irvine:

" Twenty-five years ago, William Mann Irvine caught the vision, saw the glimmerings of possibility, and dreamed—a reality. A quarter of a century of untiring labor has wrought what guests of the Commencement Exercises of the Class of 1918 see. A quarter of a century has built buildings, established traditions, set over four thousand boys running and jumping and taking part in all manner of sports; has set them at hard tasks and seen them surmount the difficulties with the same spirit that the Head Master has surmounted the innumerable difficulties that have come to him; has seen them pass on and out through the portals to college or to business; has seen them in every state and every nation all over the world doing men's work and fighting men's battles. . . .

"We can look back with a sense of satisfaction; we can look forward with the hope of still greater things, for though war wreaks its desolations, the work of education must go on and the social inheritance must be completely transmitted to the youth still to come. May the work abundantly prosper." [2]

A sketch of the activities and achievements of a quarter century also appeared in the *Alumni Quarterly:* "The wonderful evolution shown by the growth of this great school can be seen from the mere statement of the contrast between 1893 and 1918. Then the buildings and grounds had fallen into bad condition, a completely reorganized schedule had to be arranged, literary societies and musical clubs had to be organized, as well as editorial boards and athletic teams. Today all are in a most flourishing condition. Then there were four acres of ground, now 120 acres—50 of which are in the campus proper and are under the lawn mower. Then one building was used for all purposes; today there are thirteen, several of which are the best of their type in the country. Then there were ten departments of class room and executive work of all kinds; today there are twenty-five such departments. Twenty-five years ago there were ten names on the pay-roll; today there are 116 names on the pay-roll. The faculty then numbered four men; now there are yearly forty-four men on the faculty. The Board of Regents has increased from nine to twenty-one members. The tuition charges have increased from $200 full tuition and $100 for working boys to $650 and $215 respectively for 1918–19. The total amount of tuition handled by the school during these twenty-five years is $2,351,408.27. The old indebtedness has been paid, and approximately $450,000 added to betterment and equipment. Truly has the educator spoken who said: 'The evolution and growth of The Mercersburg Academy has been the marvel of secondary education in the United States.'"[3]

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[2] Quoted *ibid.*, August, 1918.

The anniversary number of the *Karux* summarized the qualities in Dr. Irvine as these:

"First, there has been the vision of a great unselfish ideal —the moulding of American youth into American manhood. This has been the 'pillar of cloud' by day and the 'pillar of fire' by night. It was conceived nobly, followed faithfully, and has been glorified into an even broader vision by the widened horizon of the years.

"Secondly, there has been an abiding faith in the high and sacred things in life. Without such a faith the accomplishment of no mighty task is possible; and in this instance faith has not only proved sufficient to maintain hope and courage, but it has literally moved 'mountains,'—vast obstacles of whose obstructing power few have an adequate conception.

"Thirdly, there has always been a spirit of formidable honesty; formidable in the sense of its being resistless. No characteristic is stronger in Dr. Irvine than that of the love of hard but fair play. And to boys, whose sense of justice is acute, this is perhaps the cardinal virtue of life.

"Then there has been the willingness to sacrifice all for the advancement of Mercersburg. The interests of The Academy have been emphasized with an energy that is marvelous. There has never been an hour during these twenty-five years when Dr. Irvine has not had at heart the progress of the school and the interests of its boys.

"Lofty ideals, great faith, noble integrity, and a ceaseless devotion to a mighty task,—these are among the things which account for the meaning of Mercersburg. And they have been the guiding principles of the life of the Head Master."[4]

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[3] *Ibid.,* August, 1918.

[4] Quoted *ibid.,* August, 1918.

When the fall term of 1918 began on September 18, the enrollment was complete. The Board of Regents report at that time sounds ominous: "When the selective draft age was changed we quickly saw that approximately one hundred of our boys were of draft age. After interviewing certain officers in the War Department we decided to tell the older boys to join the colors immediately. We were able within a period of ten days to fill all of those vacancies and the opening day brought a crowded school."[5]

Then came the signing of the Armistice, and the world breathed easier. The schools took a new lease on life and began to lay plans for expansion. Dr. Irvine had delayed his plans for a chapel until the close of the War. Now he took them up again, but before he was fully started with his project another plan unexpectedly interjected itself.

At the annual Field Day celebration in November 1918, in delivering an informal toast at the dinner in Keil Hall, Mr. S. W. Traylor of Cornwall Heights offered to give $12,500 toward an Administration Building for the Academy, provided the 400 students at the Academy subscribed a similar amount. The gift was accepted and the challenge was met. Mr. George A. Wood of Chambersburg immediately added a gift of $2500, and the building was practically assured. The Rev. W. J. Muir, the Field Secretary of the Academy, secured $43,000 in eight months and the building was begun. Dr. J. G. Rose was chairman of the committee to secure the subscriptions from undergraduates.

Ground was broken for the building in Commencement Week, 1919. The principal speaker was Ex-Governor Edwin S. Stuart of Philadelphia, who delivered an address on "The Leadership of Educated Men." The construction of the Administration Building was delayed by labor conditions and difficulty in securing materials. Subscriptions amounted to $57,000 but the contractors' bids ran from $185,000 to $200,000. Therefore the Building Committee decided:

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[5] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Middletown, Maryland, November, 1918.

"First: To use a Superintendent in erecting the building and through him to make the necessary purchases from sub-contractors.

"Second: To have considerable competition among these sub-contractors.

"Third: To solicit at least ten thousand dollars in additional subscriptions from our alumni and friends.

"Fourth: Beginning in March 1920 to push this work with all possible speed so that the building will be ready for occupancy by the opening of the winter term in January 1922." [6]

On September 16, 1921, the cornerstone of the Administration Building was laid. By the first week in August, 1922, the building was ready for occupancy. The administrative offices were moved from Main Hall to the new building, which cost $160,000.

"This new structure brought the total number of buildings devoted entirely to Academy uses up to sixteen, in marked contrast to the one building which entirely filled the needs of the Academy in 1893. It is Collegiate Gothic in style. . . . It is built of native blue limestone, trimmed with Indiana limestone, and from an architectural point of view, critics say it is one of the finest buildings in Southern Pennsylvania. Immediately over the front entrance are carved in Indiana limestone the arms of three schools. Under the point of the arch are the arms of Mercersburg. To the left are the arms of Winchester, the mother school of all institutions of this type, which was founded in 1387 by William of Wykeham. To the right of the Mercersburg arms are seen the arms of Phillips Exeter Academy, the preparatory school Alma Mater of Head Master Irvine, who brought the Exeter ideal to Southern Pennsylvania.

"The building contains a large reception room finished in Gothic style with a high wainscoting and open timber roof. The open timbers of the roof and the oak wainscoting are finished in dark colors. At one end of the reception hall is a large open fire place and two large Gothic windows, extending from the floor to the roof. At the eastern end of the reception hall there is a gallery and above it a large attractive Gothic window. At the point of the arches immediately under the roof have been painted in colors the coat of arms of twelve of the leading preparatory schools of the world. Six of these are the arms of English schools as follows: Winchester, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Westminster, and Cheltenham. The six American schools represented on these painted shields are Andover, Exeter, Saint Paul's (Concord, N. H.), Hotchkiss, Lawrenceville, and Mercersburg. The new building also contains offices for the Head Master, his assistants, Registrar, the Superintendent of Grounds and the Matron. There are also located in the new structure a mothers' rest room, the Academy Post Office, the Academy Athletic Store and various vaults and store rooms.

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[6] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, October, 1920.

" The building has been furnished in excellent taste under the supervision of Mrs. Irvine, who has been untiring in her work of making it attractive. The prevailing tone of the Reception Hall is mulberry, while that of the suite of the Head Master and his staff is Mercersburg blue. In the Reception Hall have been hung two handsome tapestries and several portraits in oil of some distinguished alumni. Over the mantle was hung Chase's portrait of Head Master Irvine, which was presented to the Academy by the alumni upon the completion of Dr. Irvine's first decade at Mercersburg. Each piece of furniture in the main room has been selected for the beauty and service it affords. Some of the davenports by the fire place, benches and stools are upholstered in the mulberry tapestry. The chairs and other davenports in Gothic design are richly carved and covered with tapestries of rich designs. Throughout there are many tables. Whether butterfly or gateleg design, each has a definite place and adds a pleasing note. Palms have been used to lend a green tone and to enrich the mulberry rugs, furniture, and the dark panel wood work. The windows are effectively covered with ecru poplin. The Head Master's private study contains beautiful tapestry chairs, a carved desk with the Mercer coat of arms on it, and a filing cabinet with the school and Princeton seals on the doors. . . ."[7]

Dr. Irvine said in one of his letters, "The new Administration Building is a joy to everybody. It is one of the most restful and inspiring places in which to work I have ever seen."[8]

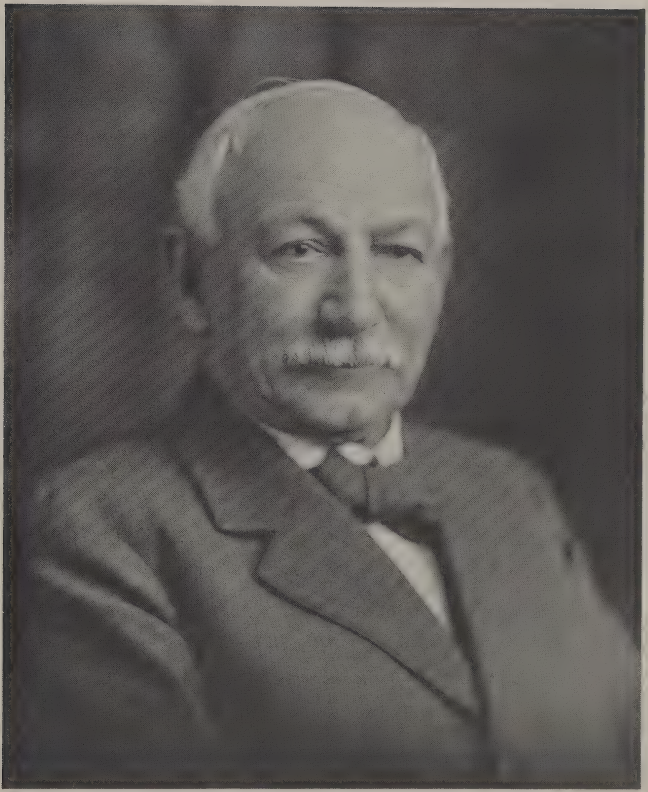
Before the Administration Building was fully begun, Dr. Irvine was at work hammer and tongs with the plans for the new Chapel. A full account of this master effort of his life will constitute a later chapter in this story.

On the occasion of the commencement of 1923, Dr. Irvine's thirtieth anniversary at Mercersburg Academy was celebrated in the Nolde Memorial Gymnasium. Former Governor William C. Sproul, a member of the Board of Regents, was the presiding officer, and in introducing Dr. Irvine said: "There is no single instance in the educational history of the state which equals what has been done at Mercersburg in three decades. He has built within a short span of thirty years a school which is a model of American institutions."[9] Dr. Irvine responded in an address "Thirty Years as Head Master," in which he reviewed the growth of Mercersburg, emphasizing that Mrs. Irvine, his wife and co-worker in the building up of the Academy, deserved the greatest part of the credit for the work which he could never have accomplished without her invaluable assistance through the many years. As a token of appreciation Dr. Irvine received a check for $5000 from the alumni. Then Mr. George A. Wood, a member of the Board of Regents, presented a check, requesting that Dr. and Mrs. Irvine spend the summer in Europe as the guests of the Board. Dr. and Mrs. Irvine devoted the summer to studying ecclesiastical architecture and equipment in the leading countries of Europe. Dr. Irvine's letters of this period show that he had the Chapel on his mind on every day of his vacation and everywhere he went.

[7] *Ibid.*, October, 1922.

[8] W. M. Irvine to Dr. W. F. Adams, November 28, 1922.

[9] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, July, 1923.



Mr. George A. Wood
1845–1925
Chairman of the Building Committee of the Board of Regents

During the summer of 1925 the Academy suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. Wood, who had given of his time and means to every department of church work and educational activity. He was the right hand man of Mercersburg's Headmaster. His devotion to Mercersburg Academy's ideals and achievements constitutes one of the brightest chapters in her history.

On October 13, 1926 the new Academy Chapel was dedicated with formal and inspiring ceremony. There were between three and four thousand subscribers to this marvelous shrine. It contains more than $250,000 worth of memorials; and for architectural beauty and power of inspiration it is unsurpassed. With the dedication of the chapel came the organization of the Department of Religious Education in the Academy, Bible study being required of each boy enrolled at Mercersburg, no matter to which denomination he belongs. This was really the crowning year at Mercersburg for Dr. and Mrs. Irvine.

In less than three months after the dedication of the new Chapel there came to Dr. Irvine and Mercersburg Academy the severest blow in the thirty-three years of his administration. Old Main Hall was destroyed by fire in the early morning of Sunday, January 9, 1927. The fire started in the storage room on the top floor. Efforts to save the building proved unavailing, and by daybreak nothing was left but ruins, the pillars on the front porch alone standing in solitary grandeur. The loss was approximately $300,000, covered with $34,500 insurance. In addition to the monetary loss was to be deplored the destruction of the library and many valuable historical documents and records. Old Main had been erected ninety-one years before its burning. It was the oldest and most historical building on the campus, richest in tradition in the whole educational life of Mercersburg and of the denomination. Every student among the thousands who had been enrolled in the Mercersburg institution for nearly a hundred years did his work in that building because it contained the recitation rooms. The writer knows how keenly Dr. Irvine felt the loss of this building. It not only threw an additional burden on his shoulders at a time when he was in the thick of his plans, but it made Dr. Irvine feel that an old friend had gone with all the associations of the years.

With his usual resourcefulness, however, Dr. Irvine immediately determined to do three things. First, he declared a special vacation of two weeks, because the heating and electrical lines had been broken in the fire. The boys were sent out of Mercersburg on a special train on the day of the fire, some of those boys traveling as far west as Missouri and Texas. Then he determined to erect army barracks for temporary recitation rooms. These shacks were built quickly by contractors who had had experience in building army camps. And finally he engaged architects to make plans for the immediate construction of a new Main Hall, on the lines of the old building, but larger and entirely fireproof. Dr. Irvine sent out an S.O.S. to his friends, patrons, and seven thousand alumni, and began the construction of New Main Hall in modernized form, to cost $400,000.

The death of two of his staunchest supporters at this time added to Dr. Irvine's difficult problem. Henry B. Swoope of the Class of 1900, who had been a member of the Board and who was also President of the Alumni Council of the Academy, died on May 21, 1927, at Merion, Pennsylvania, at the age of forty-six. He was one of the most loyal sons of Mercersburg, and was known to every class leaving the school. The carillon of forty-three bells in the spire of the chapel was only one of his many gifts to the school.

The Hon. W. Rush Gillan, Presiding Judge of the Courts of Franklin County, and President of the Board of Regents, died on Saturday, March 5, 1927, at the age of seventy-six. His service as President of the Board through a long period of years was invaluable to the institution in the days of its hardest struggles. His judicial temperament, his wise counsel and devoted loyalty to the institution made him, in truth, one of the builders of The Mercersburg Academy.

At a special meeting of the Board of Regents held April 21, 1927, two important actions were taken. Colonel James Barnes of New York City was elected President of the Board of Regents. It was also decided at this special meeting to rebuild Main Hall in the form of two units, with a colonnade of Greek columns extending from the south end of the larger unit to the smaller unit. The cornerstone was laid on July 13. Jacqueline West, the granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. Irvine, placed the copper box in the cornerstone. The old cornerstone of the original Old Main or Seminary building was sent to the Archives Room of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church in the United States, accompanied by the following characteristic letter from Dr. Irvine, dated June 30, 1927:

" This cornerstone in the year 1836 was placed in the beautiful, large Colonial building at Mercersburg, Pa., which at that time was the home of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church. Tradition says that a Mr. Hassler, as the contractor, erected the building for the sum of twelve thousand dollars. Tradition also tells us that he failed financially because his contract price was too low.

" This building was used by the students of the Theological Seminary and the students of Marshall College until both of these institutions were removed to Lancaster, Pa. In the year 1865 when Mercersburg College was organized by the efforts of Drs. Henry Harbaugh, Thomas G. Apple, and Elnathan E. Higbee, the College found its home in the old Seminary building. Dr. George W. Aughinbaugh in the fall of 1881 became the head of the institution and carried forward its work for a period of thirteen years in the form of a private school. In the year 1893 Dr. William Mann Irvine became the President of Mercersburg College and he immediately reorganized the institution along the lines of a typical New England academy.

" In the early morning of Sunday, January 9, 1927, old Main Hall, as the Seminary building after 1893 became known to all Mercersburg men, burned to the ground. For a period of ninety-one years every man who had been enrolled at Mercersburg in the Seminary, or the College, or the Academy carried forward his work in this building. On the steps, under the shadow of the beautiful white pillars of this building, Dr. Philip Schaff was welcomed with a great demonstration when he came to Mercersburg to enter the faculty of the Seminary. A student writing home at that time says that more than four hundred candles were used to illuminate the front windows of the building for Dr. Schaff's reception. The Seminary building immediately after the battle of Gettysburg was filled with wounded Confederate officers, some of whom died in the building of their wounds. Aside from the medical attention that these wounded men received, their physical care was largely in charge of Dr. Schaff and his Seminary assistants. It is interesting also to know that the Seminary building stood upon ground which at one time belonged to Dr. William Magaw, a surgeon in the American Revolution. When Lafayette was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, Dr. Magaw, by the special order of George Washington, dressed Lafayette's wounds. In the old Seminary building, later known as Main Hall, boys were enrolled from every state in the Union and from more than thirty different foreign countries. From the walls of this building, which, at the time of its erection was probably the largest structure to be found anywhere in the Reformed Church, more than two thousand men went out to join the colors and to give patriotic service in the Mexican War, the Civil War, some of the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War, and the World War. Many of these men won great distinction, receiving the highest decorations that are awarded by the governments of the world. Certain of these men made the Supreme Sacrifice, thereby glorifying their own lives as well as the institution which sent them forth.

"The new Main Hall which is being erected in the summer of 1927 on the site of the old Main Hall follows the same beautiful Colonial lines, architecturally speaking. The new Main Hall is of fireproof construction. The cost of the new Main Hall is approximately three hundred fifty thousand dollars. It is hoped by all those in charge of the work at Mercersburg that the beautiful sentiments and traditions of the old Main Hall can be carried over into the new Main Hall and that the new building with its splendid equipment will continue to mould boys into a noble manhood through many generations to come.

> "Note: At the time of the fire this cornerstone was carried into the cellar by the falling walls. When the cornerstone was opened, much to the regret of everybody, the papers and records placed there originally had been reduced to ashes. Had it been possible to preserve those records intact, they undoubtedly would have carried a precious and inspiring message to the men of this generation."

At the opening of the winter term on January 4, 1928 the larger unit of New Main Hall was occupied by the students and in the last week of February, the second unit, which replaced the wing of the old building, was also occupied. There is an assembly hall in the new structure which runs through the whole length of the building and can be used for informal chapel services.

Dr. Irvine was at heart a minister of the Gospel, although he had never been ordained to the clerical office. After the chapel was dedicated, a committee of the Mercersburg Classis ordained him to the Christian ministry, on Sunday, January 30, 1927, in recognition of his spiritual ministry to seven thousand boys who had received their ideals from him in Mercersburg Academy.

In closing his report to Potomac Synod in the fall of 1927, Dr. Irvine spoke of his entrance upon his thirty-fifth year as Head Master at Mercersburg. He referred to the fact that among all the head masters of the leading schools of America there was only one who stood above him in length of service. He told the members of the Synod that in these thirty-five years more than seven thousand boys had been enrolled, lads coming from every state in the Union and from thirty different countries. He told them that in the same period, boys at Mercersburg had been prepared to enter 116 different colleges and universities in this and other lands. He told them that nearly $2,000,000 had been spent in additions to the equipment of the Academy. And then he added: "There is much yet to be done." He painted a picture that included a library building, a recitation building, an assembly hall, a laboratory building, literary society halls, houses for members of the faculty, an endowment of a million dollars. And then he predicted, "All of this equipment will come in time."[10]

But it was not to come in the life time of Mercersburg Academy's first head master. His years of planning and building were limited to sixty-three. While leading Steps Songs during Commencement Week in early June 1928, surrounded by his friends and his hundreds of boys, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and on the following Monday, June 11, he passed away. "As the bells of the carillon rang over the campus and town with the Academy Hymn, 'Jesus I Live to Thee,' boy, master, and friend knew that a great leader, a friend of youth, had passed into the hands of his God."[11]

Three days later, after services in the Academy Chapel and an impressive eulogy by the Head Master of The Hill School, Dr. Boyd Edwards, Dr. Irvine was buried in his academic robe, wearing the hood of Doctor of Laws which Princeton University had planned to bestow on him on June 19. The cross on top of the tall spire of the Academy Chapel not only looks up to the heavens, and stretches out to the surrounding hills, but it looks down on the little God's acre nearby where rests the body of a good man and true, whose works do follow him as generation after generation of eager, happy school boys play their games, study their lessons, and worship their God on the beautiful campus and in the inspiring surroundings of The Mercersburg Academy.

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[10] Report of the Board of Regents to the Synod of the Potomac meeting at Mercersburg, October, 1927.

[11] Irvine Memorial Volume, p. 25.

W. M. Irvine

April 15, 1927
(Good Friday)

CHAPTER XXVII

Dr. Irvine's Letters and Addresses

THOSE who knew Dr. Irvine as student, teacher, headmaster, and educator soon came to realize that in spite of his many-sidedness, his life was all of a piece. It was thoroughly consistent, dominated by a single all-consuming motive. He had a passion for helping boys to become real men.

He never seemed to forget that he himself had been a boy, struggling hard for an education, and consequently he never seemed to forget the rock from which he had been hewn. Nothing appealed to him more strongly than an eager, ambitious, self-reliant boy who wanted to get an education in order that he might become useful in the world.

Dr. Irvine was a mystic in religion. He had the simple faith of a child. To become a minister was for him the most worthwhile thing in the world. In one of his letters he refers to the sense of awe that came to him at his ordination ceremony. God was to him very real, and religion was the driving force of a good and useful life.

He was at once Puritan and Cavalier. He was strict with himself and yet charitable with others, so long as they did not cross the fine line of common decency and refined sensibility. A number of his letters show how he hated sham. He detested a liar and had nothing but contempt for a loafer.

He was a dreamer. His plans for the future at times seemed almost visionary. On a Sunday afternoon walk over the campus with his friends he would at times reveal these plans with an earnestness and an enthusiasm that well-nigh staggered their simple and short-sighted faith.

But he was the kind of dreamer that had practical genius and unbounded energy to make dreams come true. Time and again he would go up to the knoll where now the dream of his life is realized in one of the most beautiful and inspiring chapels of our generation; he would look out over the amphitheatre of hills, including proud Parnell and Casey's Knob, and describe to his friends the wonderful setting God had provided for a cathedral, the spire pointing heavenward. He seemed to see it all, just as it is today. Then he went to work with the energy of two or three men to make others everywhere see the vision he saw. With the slender resources he had upon which to draw, his accomplishments were indeed a miracle. With it all, he had a saving sense of humor. He could laugh at his own shortcomings and mistakes and smile at the foibles of others as one of the following letters, written to the *Public Ledger,* clearly indicates.

He had a fine streak of sentiment. He loved beauty in all its aspects. He was deeply influenced by nature; he loved trees, and planted thousands of them. He loved beautiful pictures, good music, fine architecture. He had a genius for friendship. He knew when to praise and when to blame. Sometimes his praise was excessive and his blame severe.

From his Exeter days to the end of his life he was an enthusiast in athletics. He ever insisted that excellence in any kind of athletics demanded temperance and a clean life. He was a hero-worshipper, not a cynic. He knew that a strong man always made a vast appeal to a boy. He had faith in boys, worked for them, and got them responsive to the highest motives, those that move, exalt, enrich, purify, and greaten the many-sided soul of man.

Above all, he had a sense of a mission. He was possessed by it. He wanted to make the world a little better and more beautiful because he lived in it, and he succeeded in doing it.

From hundreds of letters of Dr. Irvine, access to which was given us through the courtesy of Mr. Daniel Heefner, we take the privilege of selecting the following as expressive of some of the traits and characteristics of Mercersburg's first headmaster. We include several letters written to him which likewise reveal some of his qualities as seen by those who experienced the gracious influence of his presence and character.

TO WILLIAM T. CLAPP, AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

November 17, 1922.

. . . While teaching is one of the noblest professions in the world, I should not advise you to go into it unless your heart would be in the work. I had always hoped that you would study law and that you would go into politics. We need a lot of good, solid men in our government. You are a leader and I am sure that you would be successful in that line of work. Whether you teach or study law, a year at Oxford would be of great benefit to you. The fellows who go over on the Rhodes Scholarship spend a little too much time away from America. I always thought that the Rhodes Scholarships should be given for a period of two years instead of a period of three years. . . .

TO ARTHUR MATSU, CLEVELAND, OHIO

November 20, 1922.

. . . Mercersburg has about the strictest eligibility rules that are to be found in any secondary school in America. Last year the Head Master at Tome Institute gathered statistics on this point and it was found that Mercersburg topped the list with respect to eligibility. Every boy in our school must carry at least twenty periods of recitations a week. A large number of the boys carry twenty-five periods a week. A boy, to be eligible to one of our teams in any branch of sport, must keep free of conditions. Mercersburg is the only school in the East that has this rule. A boy, also by being in Study Hall continuously, may be dropped from a squad. . . .

TO C. B. CHAMBERS, NEW YORK CITY

December 9, 1922.

. . . On the last Sunday evening of the fall term it has been my custom for many years to give our boys an illustrated lecture on "The Christ Child in Art." I illustrate my talk by showing approximately seventy-five lantern slides. From year to year I have been gathering these slides and I now have about one hundred eighty slides in all. I make a selection each year showing some of the most important slides every year and some of the other slides once in every two years. . . .

TO PIERRE DU PONT, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

December 12, 1922.

My dear Mr. du Pont:

In behalf of the Association of Schools and Colleges which had the very great privilege of holding its sessions at Longwood on the afternoon of Friday, December first, I wish to thank you most heartily for the many courtesies which you extended to us. Our meetings on that day were the most successful in years and much of the success and inspiration which was ours came by reason of your kindness.

The auditorium at Longwood is the most beautiful place in which it has been our privilege to meet. One of our instructors said to me: " I did not know that in all the world there is a place so beautiful as this." As presiding officer of the day, I made plans to arrive at Longwood early and it was a great joy to see the people coming into the auditorium. The organist was casting a spell over the place which everyone felt. The beauty of the flowers and the vines and the architecture and the stately rhythm of the music all seemed to make a perfect harmony. Every person present seemed to feel that same spirit which one feels when he enters a cathedral for worship. The setting in which we found ourselves was absolutely perfect. Since my return to Mercersburg, I have received many letters of congratulation on the success of our meetings and every writer speaks of the beauty and inspiration of Longwood.

Mrs. Irvine and I agree heartily that your beautiful auditorium would give charm and appropriateness to every kind of function including business meetings, concerts, receptions, weddings, and even church services. It is one of the most nearly perfect assembly halls I have ever seen. Along with its charm and beauty and inspiration it has a very practical value.

Dr. Odell tells me that sometimes you question your own wisdom in building this auditorium. I hope that your mind will always be at rest on that point. It is an inspiration and truly a real creation. The whole nation is indebted to you for this beautiful object lesson. As an educator I believe thoroughly in the enrichment of life and I hold that the real purpose of education is not to make a living but to make a life. Here, of course, comes the thought of dreams and ideals and visions all of which you have embodied gloriously at Longwood. Longwood's value is real and practical as well as beautiful and inspiring.

I had enjoyed the privilege of visiting Longwood about a month before our meetings were held. Dr. Odell took me out to look over the place so that I should know exactly how to proceed on the afternoon of our meeting. Three things on both visits impressed me very deeply.

First. Your magnificent boulevard which reminds one of the roads built by Rome when she was mistress of the world. Your road, like hers, will prove a great blessing to men.

Second. The great trees on your estate. Trees are one of my hobbies. Each year I plant from five hundred to a thousand trees with my own hands. Trees are one of the oldest forms of life on earth. They have personality. James Russell Lowell liked to imagine a tree among his far ancestors, and Washington Irving in speaking of the trees of England said: "Noble trees take range with the lion and the eagle. They assimilate to themselves the intellectual and the heroic in man."

Third. Your beautiful indoor garden where you have brought into one family the flowers and the fruits of the earth. In the words of Mrs. Coolidge, spoken to me about another garden, "yours is not a formal but a friendly garden." You are in league with nature and nature always responds gloriously. By making the world more beautiful you are making it more noble. As I looked at Longwood, a symbol of your practical affection for the public, I was reminded of the words of one of our own American poets:

"There are many kinds of love,
As many kinds of light;
And every kind of love
Is a glory in the night.
There's love that stirs the heart
And love that gives it rest,
But the love that leads life upward
Is the noblest and the best.

We who were your guests on that beautiful afternoon are greatly your debtors. You have given us a happy memory which will always abide. I wish I could make you know exactly how all of us feel about it but that, of course, is impossible.

It will please you to hear that Vice-President Coolidge also spoke to me about the exquisite beauty of Longwood. I am sure that he never will speak in more beautiful surroundings.

Mrs. Irvine and I appreciate also your great courtesy in extending to us during those two days the use of your automobile. Your chauffeur, Eugene Gibson, we found to be an interesting and most obliging person. He did exactly what you would have wanted him to do.

Again thanking you most heartily not only in behalf of the Association but also in behalf of Mrs. Irvine and myself and hoping that the richest blessings of our Heavenly Father will rest upon everything you undertake, I am, with assurances of esteem

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO WILLIAM S. HASKELL, NEW YORK CITY

December 19, 1922.

. . . I have been in touch with glee club work nearly all my life. I sang in the quartet at Phillips Exeter in the early eighties. I was a member of the glee club at Princeton and for four years when I was a student in the Seminary at Lancaster,—the last year, of course, being an instructor in the college,—I led the Franklin & Marshall College Glee Club. I have always trained my own glee club here at Mercersburg until during the last few years when my duties became too heavy and I handed all this work over to a Cornell graduate who is very skillful. . . .

TO ——————————, NEW YORK CITY

December 20, 1922.

The one thing here at Mercersburg that makes me storm and pull my hair is not a matter of discipline but of scholastic standards. There is a terrible amount of loafing done by some of the boys. They have never done any work in their lives and have never earned a cent of money in their lives. They sit on the job and dream and loaf. . . .

There is no legitimate reason for any conditions and I tell the boys that right straight to their faces. I went to school and college away from home for a period of eleven years and I never caught a single condition. In fact, I never saw the man who could hang a condition on me if he gave me a fair examination. I had the same feeling in that matter as I always had in the 'Varsity football team when the referee said: "Last down and one yard to go." I would kill myself in trying to make that yard. Of course, boys are boys and I certainly hope that a lot of these chaps will wake up before it is too late. Pardon me for writing so much in this paragraph but when a man says conditions to me, it makes me "see red."

TO ——————————

February 2, 1923.

. . . We should have been glad to retain Mr. ———— as a member of our faculty at an increased salary, but unfortunately we did not like his disposition. He is a "knocker." He had not been on our campus for three days until he began to "knock" certain features of our work. My own attitude is that a man who works for us and who receives his salary from us must be loyal in all particulars. There may be things which he would like to see improved. I am sure that every man in my organization is trying to improve his method and equipment. It was his duty, however, to keep his mouth shut if he did not like anything. My policy has been to welcome criticisms but I want the man who criticizes to come to me direct and not to stand on the outside and "knock." A fellow who "knocks" sooner or later causes trouble in the organization and that is the reason we did not invite Mr. ——— to return. . . .

TO MRS. J. H. BURSK, LANCASTER, PENNA.

February 15, 1923.

. . . While Mercersburg has flourished and has been greatly blessed in recent years in the matter of equipment, endowment, and so forth, I personally can never lose sight of the splendid things which were done here several generations ago by a band of devoted men the majority of whom have crossed over the river with its mists and its shadows into that more beautiful world. Your grandfather, who was a genius in the teaching profession and your own father whose splendid work is well known to all of us who are his friends, were outstanding figures in that group. Many times I am impressed as well as inspired by the tremendous sacrifices which they made. They worked for small salaries, the transportation facilities were poor, the financial panic following the Civil War lay heavily upon the country; there was criticism and opposition in many places where there should have been support and material help. In spite of these handicaps those men did a brave and splendid work and I shall honor them for it. I wish they might return to Mercersburg all at one time. I should like to give them a personally conducted tour over the campus and through the buildings. I should like them to look into the faces of our student body which has been pronounced by such men as Dr. Stearns, Head Master at Andover, as being one of the finest groups of its kind in America. I should not hesitate to tell those devoted men of the former day that I am carrying forward their work under more favorable circumstances.

TO ——————

March 30, 1923.

My dear ———:

I was pleased to receive your letter of recent date. I am glad you are getting along pretty well at Princeton. The fact that you loafed in French and caught a condition in that subject amazes me. I feel like coming over to Princeton and landing one on the back of your ear. There is no excuse for your ever having a condition. I am proud of your ability and of the record which you made at Mercersburg. Don't catch any more conditions or I shall be heartily ashamed of you. You are old enough now to stop looking at tall buildings and chorus girls and get to work. . . .

TO ——————

September 7, 1923.

This is simply a note to thank you for your letter of recent date. We have no vacancy for ——— at this time. His parents, however, are urging us to enroll the boy after Christmas if possible. In most cases I try to be charitable enough to give a boy the second chance but when a boy lies about anything, to speak frankly, I am afraid of him. I hate a liar or a thief. I know that you feel about it just as I do. I shall probably think about this matter a little before I reach a decision. I don't like to hit a fellow when he is down but there are a lot of people in this world who have no business to be down. . . .

TO DR. MONTAGUE J. RENDALL, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND
(HEAD MASTER, WINCHESTER ACADEMY)

October 12, 1923.

Dear Doctor Rendall:

We have here at Mercersburg, Pa. an Academy of the New England type as we mention it in America. I was a Phillips Exeter boy more than forty years ago and I brought the Exeter-Andover idea to Southern Pennsylvania where it has been very successful in the upbuilding of the school. The

Exeter-Andover idea crossed the ocean from its first home at Winchester.

Eighteen years ago Mrs. Irvine and I visited Winchester and, for a day, were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Burge. Our visit was very happy and very inspiring.

We have recently finished a very beautiful Gothic building and in one of the rooms in that building we should like to place if possible a portrait of William of Wykeham. Is there at Winchester College or at New College, Oxford an oil portrait of William of Wykeham from which we could have a replica made? If so, would you be able to mention to us a good English artist who would create this copy for a moderate fee? I hope that I am not putting you to too much trouble by asking these questions.

Under separate cover I am mailing you a copy of our catalogue which I hope will reach you in safety and prove to be of interest. It will show you something about the quality of our work. Doctor Stearns, Doctor Perry and Doctor Buehler, whom you met on your visit to America a few years ago, are all very warm friends of ours.

I almost forgot to say that in this new building of ours high up near the roof timbers we have painted the arms of six leading English schools, also of six leading American schools. Winchester of course is given a very prominent place in that collection. Over the main doorway on the facade of the building is also carved in stone the Winchester arms.

Hoping that I may hear from you soon and wishing you many blessings in your work, I am, with assurances of esteem,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO DR. HENRY VAN DYKE, PRINCETON, N. J.

October 17, 1923.

My dear Doctor van Dyke:

Your good letter which reached Mercersburg this morning made me very happy indeed. When I take it over to North Cottage at noon and let the other members of the family read it they too will rejoice. We are delighted to know that you will come to Mercersburg in the first week of May, 1924, and that you will speak to our boys at the two services on Sunday, May fourth. Be sure to spend a good part of the week with us. We shall see to it that you shall get some good fishing. There is a new stream up in the mountains which we shall explore and about forty miles north of Mercersburg, near Newville, Pa., there is a large trout stream which had a splendid reputation in past years. I am told that on a certain occasion, General Grant fished in that stream. There is an abundance of water and a skillful fisherman like you will undoubtedly fill his creel. Dr. Nevin and I visited that stream a number of years ago but we were too bungling with our flies. For a short time we tried to fish with live bait. We saw one big trout after another come up and look at the bait and then silently steal away. At any rate while you are here we shall all try to have a good, happy time together.

Mrs. Irvine and I realize that you must take good care of yourself every day through the coming years. You have given of your own strength to other people without stint and now, as you one time remarked to me that you " must begin to take in sail," that is the only wise thing to do because we all want you to be here with us for a good many years more.

I was delighted to hear about the fifty salmon and the total of one thousand pounds during the past summer. Your brother, Paul, whom I met at Colonel Kennedy's luncheon several weeks ago, told me about it with a wry face. I think he is dead wrong and you are absolutely right. Why shouldn't those salmon be caught? That was their purpose in entering the river. You shared them with your friends and made a lot of people happy and if there is " A Happy Fishing Grounds " those salmon were undoubtedly glad to depart this life.

When you come to Mercersburg next spring I want to consult you about a whole lot of things. In fact, I am going to put you on our salary list and give you the title of Minister of Inscriptions. I want a lot of inscriptions which will carry a lot of inspiration with them. These are to be placed on the bells in our carillon and upon the memorial plates in our Chapel. Just at this time we are digging the cellar of our

Chapel and in about two weeks we shall begin to erect the foundations. The general contract we hope will be given next spring. It depends largely upon how many subscriptions I can collect in the meantime. The total is now two hundred ten thousand dollars. I hope to bring it beyond the three-hundred-thousand-dollar mark by the first of April. You have more skill in writing inscriptions than any other man I know and I really am in earnest when I say that I want you to be placed on our salary list with the idea of writing a few inscriptions in your leisure hours. Your ideas are so fine that we cannot afford to lose them.

We are anxious to have you see the new Administration Building. Your suggestion about the color scheme was perfect and Mrs. Irvine carried it out beautifully. Everybody who visits this building is most enthusiastic about it. My own office contains a lot of splendid furniture, but the office itself needs to be made more human. Mr. Cram and I are struggling at this time with a Boston artist trying to have five oak panels painted which will be placed over my mantelpiece. I am working at the humanizing problem piece-meal. I have written to England to find out whether or not I can secure an oil portrait, a copy of course, of William of Wykeham. I have a certain spot in the office into which a small portrait would fit very well indeed.

All of us are well. My mother has come up from Philadelphia to visit us at North Cottage. She will stay until Thanksgiving Day. On October twenty-fifth she will be eighty years old and I am trying to gather up all the children for the birthday dinner. Mrs. Irvine is moving ahead in her usual way. Last week she entertained the Lower Middler Class. Tonight she will entertain at dinner the members of the Academy Senate. Next week she will go away on a short trip with me. I have to make an address down in Maryland. The enrollment is crowded and the outlook for the future is excellent.

Hoping that all the members of your family are well and trusting that you yourself are enjoying first-class health as well as every possible blessing upon your work, I am, with sincere affection in which Mrs. Irvine and Camille join me,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ————

November 22, 1923.

My dear ————:

Your kind letter of recent date has been received. I have read the same with much pleasure and with much interest. You are entirely wrong when you interpret from my letter the thought that your address at the Y. M. C. A. meeting was not successful. It was really a very good address. My appeal for you to not use your manuscript is based on the fact that a man can increase his power as a speaker by thirty per cent if he does not use manuscript. I realize that in your position you have to be careful about what you say. If you write your address out in full and study the manuscript carefully you will still be able to stick to the text without getting yourself in deep water.

I hope that you will think about the method of preparing addresses which I mentioned in my previous letter. In your position you hear good addresses and incidents on various topics which really have dramatic force. Sometimes such information comes in the form of statistics. I should advise you to keep a notebook where you can jot down these materials, also keep a scrap book into which you can copy short passages which are filled with human interest from your readings. By using this method you will be able to keep the preparation of a dozen addresses moving at one time. In the desk in my library I always have from eight to fifteen addresses being prepared at the same time. For instance, I am already gathering material for my baccalaureate sermon which will be preached in 1924, also for my Commencement address in that same week. I cannot wait until the last week or two to prepare such addresses. My opportunities for reading and meditation come to me sporadically. I may be able to put two or three hours on this work during the present week and then two or three weeks may slip away before I have another opportunity. If I were you I should think of a dozen places to which you may be called to make addresses during the next year and then I should slowly gather my material. For instance, I have nearly all my material gathered for the sermon which I must preach to the boys on the opening Sunday in January 1924. I began to gather some of this material when I was in Europe during the past summer. I make notes on sheets of paper and put a heading at the top of each sheet which shows in which address the material belongs.

I simply give you these suggestions because, as I said in my previous letter, you have the possibilities of gaining great power as a speaker. If you use the right method in gathering your material, as all very busy men must have a method something like this, and then prepare your material very carefully not using the manuscript when you speak, you will become one of the most powerful and most interesting speakers in Army and Navy circles.

By the way, pardon me if I said anything in my previous letter which inferred that you belonged to the Army. You belong to the Navy. The Navy is proud of you and so is Mercersburg.

Hoping that you will not look upon me as "butting in" or as being officious in making these suggestions because it is simply my very great personal interest in you which compels me to write you in this way, I am, with sincere affection to you all in which Mrs. Irvine joins me,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO THE HON. GIFFORD PINCHOT, HARRISBURG, PA.

March 20, 1924.

My dear Pinchot:

I thank you heartily for your letter of March 17th which I have read with much interest. I am most anxious to be a good citizen and to help the State by every means in my power, although I am tremendously busy with my own job, having a large number of extra duties laid upon my shoulders just at this time. I feel that I owe it to the Commonwealth to accept your challenge and I am therefore willing to become a member of the State Fish Commission for such time as you may designate.

I also am glad to tell you that I am willing to stand by the personal pledge which you request from the men whom you appoint to the various offices.

Awaiting further instructions and hoping that you are well, I am, with kindest regards in which Mrs. Irvine joins me,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO THE HON. CALVIN COOLIDGE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 28, 1924.

Dear President Coolidge:

It gives me great pleasure to inform Mrs. Coolidge and you that your son, John, by reason of high scholarship, will deliver one of the honorary orations on Commencement Day, June 4, 1924. John has been a good boy. He works faithfully and he deserves this honor.

Congratulating Mrs. Coolidge and you on the splendid results which your sons are obtaining at Mercersburg, I am, with assurances of esteem,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO THE HON. EDWARD M. BEERS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 29, 1924.

My dear Mr. Beers:

I hope that you will see your way clear to vote for the McNary-Clarke Forestry Bill, which, I understand, will come before Congress in the very near future. One of the wisest things that our state governments and national government could do would be to re-forest every acre of our country which is not otherwise preoccupied and especially the acres which cannot be used for other purposes. Personally speaking, I am something of a crank on trees. It is my hobby. Each spring

I plant from five hundred to a thousand trees with my own hands here on the Academy estate. I love trees and when I plant a tree I feel that I am conferring a blessing on future generations. I hope that every member of Congress will feel just that same way when he votes for this bill.

Wishing you every possible blessing in your work and hoping that you will visit our Academy when you get into this section of the world, I am,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO DR. HENRY VAN DYKE, PRINCETON, N. J.

April 15, 1924.

My dear Doctor van Dyke:

I can't begin to tell you how greatly all of us here at Mercersburg were pleased with your letter of April eighth. We are sorry to learn that the fishing in Florida was poor. We are hoping that the fishing in Mercersburg will be better than it has been during several years past. As I told you, we are going to fish at Dickey's Run and at several other places. We shall try one new stream and probably two. We are hoping and praying that the weather will be favorable on every day of your visit. I can't begin to tell you how every member of my family is looking forward with great and pleasurable anticipation to your coming. You really do not understand how greatly all of us are devoted to you.

All of us have to laugh when you say that your head is wooly on the inside. Speaking personally I wish I could get some of that same kind of wool to grow on the inside of my cranium. The few inscriptions which you have written are superb. I am sending one of them to Mr. Cram this morning for the cornerstone. When you are in Mercersburg we can take our leisure in discussing additional inscriptions. When I tell you some of the intimate details concerning certain of these memorials, I am sure that you will make suggestions for inscriptions just as easily as Babe Ruth knocks out home runs.

We note the fact that you will preach in Chicago on April 20 and April 27, and that you will arrive in Mercersburg on

April 29 or April 30. Come just as soon as you can and stay as long as possible. Mrs. Irvine and I from time to time feel the touch of that Anno Domini disease and therefore we wish to see more and more of those who have been our good friends through the years.

Looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you here about two weeks from this time, I am, with sincere affection in which all the other members of my family join me,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO DR. BOYD EDWARDS, POTTSTOWN, PA.

May 12, 1924.

My dear Boyd:

It was mighty good of you to send us a telegram of congratulations on the Princeton meet. We appreciate your kindness more than we can make you know.

Naturally, we were delighted to win the meet, because the last five years have been very lean ones for us as far as this meet is concerned. When Mr. Sweeny, six years ago, said that he would give us a run for our money, I thought he could not do it but he was a true prophet. The way in which he marshaled the Hill School forces and almost won the cup made all of us here at Mercersburg admire his skill very much indeed.

Some of the other schools which attended the meet, some of them for the first time, cut into our points considerably and that also pushed your boys down in the scoring. The Princeton meet is a meet of the highest class as compared with other interscholastic meets and from year to year we may expect this sort of thing.

I have been away from home for four days and when I get down into my desk I am going to write you and set a date for my visit to Pottstown to preach to your boys. It is quite likely that it will be the first Sunday in December, 1924. I shall write definitely later.

Hoping that all the members of your family are well and trusting that your work is being greatly blessed, I am, with sincere affection in which Mrs. Irvine joins me to you all

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO THE EDITOR, THE *Public Ledger*, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

May 17, 1924.

Dear Sir:

Three or four days ago you printed the advertisement of The Mercersburg Academy in your educational column. In that advertisement you nominated the Head Master at Mercersburg as being "the Bandmaster." I suppose either title would be appropriate because when I wave the baton in this neck of the woods everybody tries to keep step. Several of my alumni and one of our instructors have called my attention to the slip made by one of your copy editors. We had a good laugh over it. I thought you would like to have the mistake called to your attention.

Thanking you for courtesies extended to our Academy from time to time and wishing The Ledger all possible success, I am

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO PROF. W. O. SYPHERD, NEWARK, DELAWARE

May 23, 1924.

My dear Professor Sypherd:

Your kind letter of inquiry has been received. The Mercersburg Academy has always emphasized to an unusual degree the importance of public speaking. Ever since I became Head Master at Mercersburg thirty-one years ago we have had an instructor in oratory. It is his duty to drill every boy in the school because each boy is required to speak in public twice a year. In the fall term they speak poetical selections and in the winter term they speak prose selections. He also conducts a course of one hour a week with the Seniors in the elements of oratory.

In addition to the work which is required of our boys in public speaking, we have two literary societies which are very active. Every boy who enrolls at Mercersburg is compelled to join a scrub society. By debating, declamations, and so forth, he works himself out of the scrub society into either the Marshall Preliminary or the Irving Preliminary. He continues his progress in the Preliminary and works himself out by making two good extempore speeches or debates thereby earning election to the Washington Irving or to the John Marshall Society. These upper societies are run by the boys; the preliminary societies as well as the scrub societies are managed by the faculty. An immense amount of work of this type is carried forward in each year and there is a steady stream of boys traveling from the scrub societies to the upper societies.

Mercersburg has always maintained that the ability to stand on one's feet and think clearly and express those thoughts in the right way is a great power for any man to possess.

I have thought a good deal about the advisability of having a credit given for public speaking. If such credit is given it should be an additional credit. I should not be in favor of having one unit take the place of, say, one unit in History, or in English, or some other subject. That, it seems to me, would be a big mistake. There is no possible way of checking up such a unit. The certificate of the instructor or the Head Master would have to be accepted in such case.

Hoping that what I have said will be of service, I am, with best wishes,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO MRS. IRVINE
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mrs. Irvine:

I have brought my pen and paper out on the south portico where I can look down across the lawn toward the monument and the river, can feel the soft summer breeze and can hear the birds twitter and sing in the trees. My dear, you cannot know the inspiration I always get from a visit to you and Mercersburg. Dr. Boone, Mrs. Stearns, Mr. Haley and I were talking about it in a little group yesterday morning. Dr. Boone expressed the feeling we all had, "I feel as though I had been in Heaven." I was glad to hear them express such enthusiasm for sometimes I wonder if I am a bit "touched" on the subject. It is hard for me to decide which particular occasion gripped me the hardest. Each one moved me beyond expression. But, I think my heart was wound up tightest when I looked at Dr. Irvine seated upon the platform in the center of his graduating class on Wednesday morning. What a blessed work he's doing! Would that we had more men like him working with our young men and women. I looked at Dr. Irvine's mother that day and thought how happy she must be to see her son among his boys giving them such a splendid preparation—how happy I should be if one of my boys made his life "count" in just that way. God grant you may both be given strength to continue this noble work.

I hope you are both going to have a good rest this summer. You've earned it and need it.

Thank you for all you did for Mrs. Stearns, Mr. Haley and me. The strength I stored up while with you will keep me going until I see you again.

Lots and lots of love to you all.

Sincerely your friend,

(Signed) GRACE COOLIDGE

Friday morning.

June 11, 1924.

TO THE MERCERSBURG ALUMNI OF PHILADELPHIA AND VICINITY, GREETING:

My dear Boys:

I had fully expected to be present at the complimentary dinner which you are giving tonight to our track coach, Mr. Curran. At the last minute I find that I shall not be able to make the trip. I have to be away from home during the greater part of next week and the following week Mrs. Irvine and I start away on our vacation. I have not yet been able to catch up with my many duties which fell so far behind during Commencement Week and, therefore, I must remain at home for a few days longer. Otherwise some of these things would not be taken care of until after the middle of July.

Your dinner to Mr. Curran is a beautiful tribute and one that is well deserved. It recognizes Jimmy's fine record as a coach at The Mercersburg Academy and at the same time it glorifies the splendid record which our Mercersburg boys have made in the Olympic games during the past twenty-four years.

A running account of these games may be of interest to you dear fellows.

The first modern Olympiad was held in the year 1896 at Athens. At that time Mercersburg Academy did not have a track or a track team. Our first team for outside competition was organized in the spring of 1897 when our relay team went to Philadelphia and won the banner in its first race. It is interesting to note that our class in that year was the lowest class in the meet. Recently the four silver cups which were given as first prizes in 1897 have been returned to Mercersburg by the boys who won them and now these prizes hold an honored place in our Trophy Room.

America won the Olympiad of 1896 largely through the athletes which were sent by Princeton University and the Boston Athletic Club. Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, the Captain of the Princeton team in a large measure financed the trip for the Princeton men. Tom Burke, of Boston, who won the sprints at Athens and who was the first athlete to be crowned by a Greek king in two thousand years later came to Mercersburg as one of our coaches. My impression is that Tom Burke is now a sporting writer on one of the Boston newspapers.

In the Olympiad in 1900 which was held in Paris, Mercersburg had one representative, namely, Walter Drumheller, '97. Drumheller ran as anchor man on our first relay team and in the Olympiad in Paris he won third place in the 800-meter race. Last spring he sent his bronze medal given for third place in that race to Mercersburg to be placed in our Trophy Room.

The Olympiad of 1906 was held at Athens and R. G. Leavitt, '04, won the high hurdles. Before being enrolled at Mercersburg Leavitt had attended Phillips Exeter and at Exeter he was a second or third string man in the half-mile run. He came to Mercersburg in the fall of 1902, the first year in which Johnnie Mack was our trainer. Johnnie immediately trained Leavitt in the hurdles and he broke nearly every scholastic record in both hurdle races in the following spring.

Leavitt, after leaving Mercersburg entered Williams College and was elected track captain of that institution.

In 1908 when the Olympic games were held in London, Mercersburg had the following representatives on the team: L. J. Talbot '08 in the weight events, T. R. Moffett '01 in the high jump, and W. C. Robbins '08 in the 400-meter race, in which event he reached the finals. The final in this race was run between three Americans and one Englishman, Lieutenant Halswelle. Lieutenant Halswelle had been brought out as a runner in South Africa by Mr. James Curran who later became track trainer at Mercersburg. On account of a dispute, the three Americans withdrew from the race. R. B. Foster, '12, who was a member of the American swimming team in the Olympic games, represented the Illinois Athletic Club. In the fall immediately after the games, Foster was enrolled at Mercersburg for the first time.

In 1912, at Stockholm, " Ted " Meredith ex '13, won the 800-meter race, breaking the world's record in that race in one minute, fifty-one and nine-tenths seconds, also breaking the world's record for the half-mile in the same race in one minute, fifty-two and one-half seconds. The details of Ted's great race are so well known throughout the world that we need not mention them in this letter.

In 1916 there were no Olympic Games because of the World War.

In 1920 Allen T. Woodring, of the Class of 1919, won the 200-meter race at Antwerp, Belgium. He had been taken over on the team virtually as a substitute. The race was run on a muddy track and Woodring really surprised himself as well as delighted all of us Mercersburg people by winning the race. There were several other Mercersburg alumni on the Olympic team in 1920. I cannot recall their names at this time. Probably Jimmy Curran can enlighten you.

The Olympiad of 1924 is immediately before us. We shall undoubtedly have three or four Mercersburg representatives on that team and I hope that at least one of them will win a first place. There is a tradition at Mercersburg for an alumnus who wins a place in the Olympiad to bring his jersey back to Mercersburg to be placed in our Trophy Room. We already have the jersies of Woodring and Meredith. On Field Day, immediately after the Olympiad, the Mercersburg alumnus who wins a place in those games is given a beautiful gold medal and this medal is presented by Mercersburg's Head Master in a beautiful ceremony.

I hope that tonight in Philadelphia you will have a large attendance at the dinner and such enthusiasm as will be commensurate with our Olympic record. My great regret of course is the fact that I will not be able to be your guest this evening. I am sending one of my assistants, Mr. Kenneth W. Rogers to represent us.

Hoping that every member of the Philadelphia-Mercersburg Club will return to the Academy on every opportunity for we are always delighted to welcome all of our old boys, and trusting that you will have continued interest in the welfare and record which the Academy is making from nearly every point of view, I am, with sincere affection in which Mrs. Irvine joins me to every one of you,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ———————

June 24, 1924.

. . . By way of introduction, let me say that I am a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, also of Princeton University in the class of 1888. Thirty-one years ago I brought the Exeter idea into Southern Pennsylvania. I found an institution which was very much run down. It was swamped with debt and the sheriff was almost ready to foreclose. There was in use one building and four acres of ground. The whole situation seemed to be hopeless. Five or six other educators refused to become the Head Master at Mercersburg. My youth and enthusiasm persuaded me to accept the difficult job of building up the school.

In those years Mrs. Irvine and I have put forth much hard work and the results secured are very gratifying. The grounds have increased from 4 acres to 120 acres; the buildings from one building to 16 buildings; the faculty from 4 members to 46 members. In that first year the fall term began with 40 boys enrolled. Our largest enrollment since that time in any one year was 557. Each summer we are called on to refuse many hundreds of boys because we do not have room for them. The boys enrolled here have come from every state in the Union and from 24 different foreign countries. We have prepared boys to enter 113 different universities and colleges, including more than a dozen universities in foreign lands, such as Oxford, Geneva, Paris, Toronto, Havana, etc.

One thousand, six hundred sixty-four Mercersburg alumni were with the Colors in the Great War. They served in more than thirty general divisions such as aviation, balloon service, heavy artillery, infantry, battleships, medical corps, signal corps, and so forth. They fought on nearly every battlefront, including Vladivostok, Archangel, Southwestern Russia, Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Dardanelles, Salonika, Italy, France, Belgium, and they were on guard in many other sections of the world. Fifty-six of our boys died in battle and in camp. Fifty-three of them were decorated, winning a total of 93 decorations and citations. Of the 91 Congressional Medals of Honor given in the entire American Army and Navy, three were won by Mercersburg boys. The French equivalent of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Medaille Militaire, was won by three Mercersburg boys. Our boys were decorated by five different nations. We are proud of our war record.

Originally there were 9 members of our Board of Regents, but now there are 24 members.

Our ideal is to have our boys make their lives strong and beautiful. We try to give each boy who is placed under our care light to see the right and the courage to follow it. In scholarship we rank among the best eight or ten schools in America. In the spirit of manliness we are second to no other school. Dr. Faunce of Brown University a few years ago said: " The growth of The Mercersburg Academy is one of the greatest pieces of evolution in American education."

Dr. Henry van Dyke of Princeton, N. J., wrote me a few years ago as follows: " You have transformed an old and tired seminary, ready to fall into the hands of the sheriff, into one of the most vigorously useful and largest preparatory schools in America. It is a school with a character of its own, sane, manly, democratic, American, Christian. It works in a broad and simple way, with a discipline which is firm in principles and liberal in details, to build up boys into a self-reliant and controlled manhood. Preparatory schools have not yet received due attention from the benefactors of education of America. They are just as necessary as colleges and universities. No wiser use of money could be made than to endow and equip such a school as Mercersburg."

Bishop W. F. McDowell of Washington, D. C., a few months ago, when he was sitting on the platform watching our boys come to the morning service, said: " When you look into the faces of these young fellows you feel confident that they cannot go far wrong and that our nation is safe."

The two sons of President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge have been with us during the past three years. John Coolidge recently received his diploma and will enter Amherst College in the autumn. Calvin Coolidge, Jr., will return for his Senior year. When another parent recently wrote to Mrs. Coolidge, asking her opinion of Mercersburg, Mrs. Coolidge answered: " President Coolidge and I are greatly pleased with what The Mercersburg Academy has done for our two boys. If we had a dozen boys all of them would be enrolled at Mercersburg."

Along with Phillips Andover and Phillips Exeter, Mercersburg stands at the very top as being one of the most democratic schools in America. Mr. Edward W. Bok remarked to me within the past month: " I like what Mercersburg is doing for the nation. I am much more interested in the Mercersburg type of boy than I am in the type which is seen in so many schools which serve only the sons of rich men. You are serving the great mass of the people from whom must come the majority of our leaders."

The democracy of the school is seen very clearly each year in the award of the Gold Cross on the Commencement stage. Mrs. Irvine each year gives a Gold Cross to the boy who has the finest influence in the school. On the cross is the name of the winner, the date, and the inscription: " A loving tribute from your School Mother." In different years this cross has been won by the son of a stone mason, the son of a leading southern banker, the son of a Governor of Pennsylvania, the son of a blacksmith, the son of a " working woman " who lives in Massachusetts, and the son of a prominent lawyer in Western Pennsylvania. Honorable mention in the award of the Gold Cross has been given to the sons of United States Senators, the sons of business men, a son of the President of the United States, and to boys from other walks in life.

Our tuition during the past year was $900. We grant scholarships to the sons of ministers, to students for the ministry, and occasionally to the sons of army officers and teachers. A boy who holds a scholarship pays $625 as his tuition. We help between 60 and 70 boys each year by giving them working positions. They wait on table in the dining-room. The tuition of a dining-room boy is $320 a year. All the other schools of our class charge considerably more for tuition than we charge. Like Rugby in England, we purposely try to keep our tuition lower than that of any other school of our class. An American educator who is in a position to know says: " Mercersburg gives more for the money than any other school in America. Considering the limited amount of its endowment, it is doing the greatest volume of work done by any school on the American Continent."

We have always handled our finances in a business-like way. Never in a single year have we fallen behind in our running expenses. In one year we cleared only $300, but as a rule each year we clear several thousand dollars above our running expenses. Of course, we have no taxes, no dividends, no rentals. The men at Mercersburg previous to this administration secured good results in the class-room but were poor financiers and therefore got into deep water. The auditors who inspect the books of our Treasurer year after year say that there isn't a bank in Pennsylvania whose books surpass the books of Mercersburg Academy when it comes to clearness, efficiency, and general appearance.

During these 31 years we have added $750,000 to the equipment of the school, including dormitories, dining-hall, gymnasium, infirmary, power plant, Administration Building, and general equipment. Including scholarships and prizes, our total endowment is $130,000. When I came here it was less than $4000.

As I explained to Miss Moore, at the present time the one great piece of equipment for which we are struggling is a new Academy Chapel. Mr. Ralph Adams Cram of Boston is our architect. He has drawn plans for a chapel which will be beautiful and dignified. The Chapel in large measure is being built in memory of our 56 boys who died in the Great War and in honor of the 6300 Mercersburg mothers who have sent their boys here to be moulded into a noble manhood. As far as beauty is concerned, the Chapel will be all that art and heroic, spiritual sentiment can make it. Mr. Cram assures us that when the chapel is finished and dedicated we shall have one of the most beautiful buildings on the American Continent. President and Mrs. Coolidge were here to break ground for the Chapel two years ago and recently Mrs. Coolidge did us the honor of laying the cornerstone of the Chapel. We expect the Chapel to do for our boys in a spiritual way what the gymnasium has been doing for them in a physical way.

Including the many beautiful memorials, the new Chapel will cost us approximately $600,000. We have $330,000 subscribed at the present time, and we have given a contract to the extent of $375,000. We are proceeding slowly and therefore safely in the handling of this great work.

Under separate cover we are mailing you a copy of our catalogue and a number of other Mercersburg publications. In that package we also enclose some photographs of the preliminary drawings of the Chapel.

Our friends who have watched the work very closely at Mercersburg tell me that throughout these years I have done the work of three men. I had to support myself through Exeter and Princeton and I know what hard work means. Mrs. Irvine has also worked equally hard at my side. We are getting along in years and we need help. I wish you could see your way clear to make a gift to our Academy. . . .

TO MRS. CALVIN COOLIDGE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

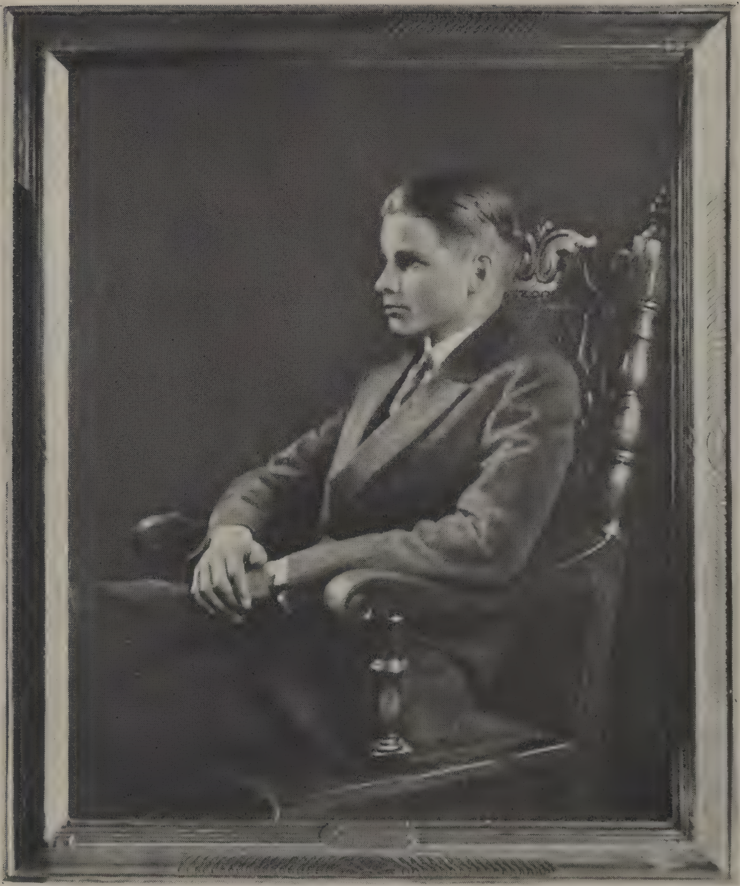
July
Twenty-sixth
Nineteen
Twenty-four

My dear Mrs. Coolidge:

All three of you have been in our thoughts and prayers every day, and on many days every hour, since we first learned of Calvin's illness. What a beautiful spiritual gift you have made to the entire nation—Calvin by his superb boy's life and the manly fight in his last days, and the President and you and John by the ideal, Christian way in which you carried your heartbreaking sorrow.

Many different thoughts come to me as I think of Calvin—all of them comforting and uplifting:

Calvin would have been one of the greatest leaders at Mercersburg this year. He was pure and clean. He had an earnestness and forward look that were rare in one of his years. For a boy he thought straight and he saw true. He was not afraid, and as Christ's good soldier could be counted on to fight for the right. He loved a joke, good fellowship and a boy's fun. Every day he practiced the elemental virtues of life. He was admired by his instructors and loved by his fellows—a combination of gifts that is well-nigh perfect. Through the long years, as thousands of boys from this and other lands have found their way into Mrs. Irvine's heart and



Calvin Coolidge, Jr.
April 13, 1908 — July 7, 1924
An Ideal American Boy. A Much Beloved Mercersburg Son.

mine, I had looked for some boy in character, ability and personality to be outstanding, an ideal to whom all other boys could look and thereby be inspired and blessed. God seems to make it clear that Calvin Coolidge Jr. is that ideal boy.

Calvin's influence on me, his Head Master, is happy, deep, abiding and heroic. Among the thousands of " my boys " no other lad has surpassed it. When he came into my office I called him " Boysie " and his face always lighted up with that beautiful smile. We were drawn very close together and had absolute confidence in each other. Since he has gone away I find his influence on me more powerful than ever. One of the later ideals of my life will be to pass that superb influence on to other boys.

The whole nation was touched when the dear boy was carried back to beautiful Vermont. Her mountains and lakes and rolling hills had always charmed and rested me. Through my remaining years, to me Vermont will be holy ground. Some day Mrs. Irvine and I shall go up there just to spend a little time near our dear boy. When I saw him at Northampton and as I think of him now under the blue skies, the stars and the dawn he is just sleeping. Our good Mercersburg friend, Dr. Henry van Dyke, expresses my thoughts in the closing lines of his " Ode to Peace ":

" And here, at last, is sleep with silent gifts,—
    Kind sleep, the tender nurse who lifts
The soul grown weary of the waking world,
    And lays it, with its thoughts all furled,
Its fear forgotten, and its passions still,
On the deep bosom of the Eternal Will."

Our dear Calvin is an ideal for boys the world over, of every class and age. As I said to you at Northampton, it is not length of life but quality of life that counts, not the size of the canvas but the beauty of the picture that inspires.

In a few days I shall send you some of Calvin's latest pictures that were taken by a Mercersburg photographer, one near the porch at North Cottage and one with several other boys at the mouth of a cave which is four or five miles east of Mercersburg.

In the early autumn we shall publish a special volume of the Mercersburg News in memory of our dear boy. Mrs. Irvine and I have been thinking of other beautiful ways in which we can place his influence in the heart of every American boy.

Mrs. Irvine and I hope that all of you are well. We hope and we feel sure that you have that feeling of comfort and thankfulness and deep consecration which always comes to people who look at a great sorrow in the right way.

With most heartfelt affection to all three of you from Mrs. Irvine and me, I am

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ————————

October 13, 1924.

. . . Here at Mercersburg I absolutely refuse to talk business to parents when they visit the school on Sunday and I never let my boys play ball or play a game on Sunday. The work of the State is very important and we want the blessing of our Heavenly Father on it. I never felt that he would place his blessing on any work that was accomplished on Sunday unless it was business, of course, that was unavoidable like the work of a physician or a preacher. I hope you will pardon me if I have written too frankly about this matter but my friends all know that I am very frank when it comes to moral questions. I could not hold the respect of my thousands of boys if I were otherwise. . . .

TO J. ALLEN TAILBY, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

December
Thirteenth
Ninteen
Twenty-four

Dear Mr. Tailby:

Your letter of recent date has been received. I am herewith sending you a copy of The Mercersburg Academy Hymn. This Hymn, as you know, was sung at Northampton, Mass., also at Plymouth, Vt., in connection with the funeral of Calvin Coolidge, Jr. I hope you will accept this copy of the hymn with our best wishes.

This hymn was written in the year 1850 by Dr. Henry Harbaugh, a Mercersburg graduate. Dr. Harbaugh was the son of a farmer. He was born about 25 miles east of Mercersburg on the eastern edge of our beautiful Cumberland Valley. When a lad he went out to Ohio and worked as an apprentice to a miller. He had a good voice and he taught a country singing school. Being very anxious for an education, he studied at night, lying full-length on the bolting box in the mill, because there was no table convenient, and used the stubs of candles for light. Later he entered Mercersburg and worked his way through the institution. The music for the hymn was written by Isaac B. Woodbury, who was born in Massachusetts. Mr. Woodbury had an excellent tenor voice and he went to Italy to have his voice cultivated. While in that country he sang in Grand Opera.

The Academy Hymn has been translated into about thirty different languages of the earth. It has a long and beautiful history. During the war I sent copies of the hymn to hundreds of Mercersburg boys who were with the Colors and this hymn was sung in many camps and on some of the battlefields in Europe.

The hymn can be used as a creed or a prayer and it can be sung on almost any kind of an occasion. It has been used at funerals, the laying of cornerstones, dedicatory ceremonies, ordinary worship, and so forth. On every Sunday morning our Mercersburg boys sing it immediately before the preaching of the sermon. I know of certain ministers who use it with their young people before the latter are confirmed. By the request of President and Mrs. Coolidge it was used twice in the funeral services of their son, the hymn having been sung by the Washington Quartette most beautifully at Northampton, Mass., and as part of the committal service at Plymouth, Vermont.

Be sure to tell whoever uses the hymn to sing it slowly. Some congregations ruin it by singing the hymn too rapidly.

They are deceived because it is written in quarter notes. Our boys sing the third stanza slowly and the fourth stanza loudly and triumphantly.

When Dr. John Timothy Stone in 1908, while he was pastor of the Brown Memorial Church in Baltimore, came down to preach to our boys he then heard the hymn for the first time. He asked for a copy of it and I sent it to him. He handed the copy to his organist in the Brown Memorial. On the following day the organist gave it to Dr. Stone and said: "I have looked over that hymn. The words are beautiful. The music itself comes more nearly, from the standpoint of composition in hymnology, to being a perfect composition than almost any other hymn I know. The sequence of chords, the chords themselves, and the arrangement in every way is almost perfect."

Won't you please send me the name of the lady who is the organist of the large church in Montreal? I should like very much to have her tell me about the use of the hymn in Canada. The reason I make this request is that we have a file here in my office in which we place everything that occurs in relation to this hymn. Some day I am going to publish a booklet and shall reproduce certain of the translations which have been made into foreign languages. The story of the hymn will be filled with color and beautiful sentiment.

Thanking you for writing to us about it and hoping that this letter will reach you promptly, I am

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ARMIN H. TENDICK, PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN

December
Seventeenth,
Nineteen
Twenty-four

My dear Mr. Tendick:

All of us here at Mercersburg appreciate very much your letter of Christmas greeting. As the Head Master of Mercersburg, representing the entire student body, I wish to reciprocate your beautiful sentiments. The birth of our blessed Master was the greatest event in human history. If the blessings of the Christmas season could be spread out over the entire world, wars would cease and everybody would be happy. Every sin and every wrong in the world is due to lack of self-control or to selfishness in some form or other on the part of somebody. We Christians have a definite goal to reach. We pray for it and work for it and the goal is our desire that the people of all nations may know the Christ. There is no other cure for the world's ills. There will always be trouble and ingratitude and selfishness and sin in the world until all peoples know and follow the Master.

Wishing the students and instructors at the Mission House every possible joy in the Christmas season, and again thanking you for your letter, I am

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ————————

. . . You see, we are making a hard drive against the loafers in the school. We are compelling them to get out of Study Hall and do some tutoring. The examinations for the end of the fall term are not so far away. E—— knows all this and he does not have the grit to stand and do his full duty. He has taken the line of least resistance on so many previous occasions that he now insists upon moving ahead on that same road. It is too bad. The boy deliberately is throwing away the great opportunity which his mother and you are giving him. I am sorry for him and I am very sorry for his parents. Each year we have a few cases like this. Another boy who was enrolled here from Alabama acted in precisely the same way two days ago. If a boy won't work there is no power in Heaven or on earth that can make him work. He must have some initiative and he must meet us half-way. Nearly every boy to whom Mrs. Irvine appeals is willing to follow her advice. E—— simply wouldn't do it. I am afraid that he is lacking in the stuff that goes to make a strong, virile man. How he is going to shape up his career in future years I do not know. He will have trouble as long as he lives unless he takes a different attitude toward his work. I am just as sorry as I can be for him. We are anxious to help him by every means in our power but he won't have it in that way. He may have some slight physical ailment but you know, as well as do I, that a real man fights on unless the physical ailment is of a serious nature.

TO J. S. ILLICK, HARRISBURG, PA.

Jan. 30, 1925.

My dear Mr. Illick:

Your letter of inquiry has been received. Trees and shrubs are my hobby. The Academy owns an estate of 282 acres. About 70 acres of this are under the lawn mower. I plant from 500 to 1000 trees and shrubs each spring in developing certain parts of the Academy estate. Mrs. Irvine looks after the flowers and she has a great variety of blooms from the time the snowdrops come through in February until the cosmos are killed by the frost in November.

Through the years I have managed to plant a number of trees of historic value on the Academy estate. The list is partly as follows: Elms which are lineal descendants from the William Penn Treaty Elm, also elms from the Lexington battlefield, the Concord bridge, the Valley Forge embankments, and elms which are descendants of the Lancaster Elm at Lancaster, Mass., generally reputed to be the largest elm in that state. I also have elms from the Benjamin Franklin Elm in New Haven. I have white oaks which came from the battlefield of Brandywine and I have a number of white oaks which are lineal descendants of the Charter Oak in which the Connecticut Charter was hidden a couple of hundred years ago.

I also have young beeches which came from Gladstone's estate at Hawarden, Wales; plane trees from Sir Walter Scott's estate at Abbotsford; elm trees which came from the Trinity Churchyard at Stratford-on-Avon where Shakespeare is buried; elm trees from Oxford, and various other historic places in Scotland and England. I have a coffee bean which came from Mount Vernon and a number of French willows which came from Grand Pré, the land of Evangeline.

I used to be a little more keen about these historic trees than I am at the present time. Unless a tree is marked with a small sign on it, its historic value is not known. As soon as you mark it some people are liable clandestinely to cut a piece of the bark or injure the tree in some other way. . . .

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO ——————

February 3, 1925.

My dear ——:

Mrs. Irvine and I thank you heartily for sending us the announcement of the birth of your dear little boy. We congratulate Mrs. —— and you with all our hearts. We hope that the mother and the baby are getting along splendidly and that the laddie through the coming years will grow and develop beautifully.

I note the fact that you will probably send him to Mercersburg. I trust that Mrs. Irvine and I shall still be on the job when he arrives. I shall be sixty years of age this coming fall and I now begin to wonder how long I shall keep the pace. I have to slow down a little, year by year, because I do not have the endurance that I had twenty years ago. I have many big plans in mind for the place in the way of buildings, equipment, and internal organization, and I trust that I shall be able to carry out all these plans before I hand this job over to another fellow.

Hoping that all of you are well and wishing you every blessing in your work, also again congratulating you upon the arrival of the boy, I am, with sincere affection in which Mrs. Irvine joins me,

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO MESSRS. CRAM AND FERGUSON, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
(ARCHITECTS OF THE ACADEMY CHAPEL)

February
10
1925

Dear Sirs:

Under separate cover, by parcel post insured, we are mailing you the drawing of the chancel in the Mercersburg Academy Chapel. We hope that this drawing will reach you in safety and that after you are through with it you will return it to us as we wish to have it at this end of the line for special study from time to time.

With respect to the furniture in the chancel of our Chapel I may be able to give you a few points which will be helpful as follows:

THE ALTAR. Mrs. Irvine and I are giving the altar in memory of our only son who died twenty-four years ago on his second birthday. We have a design for the altar. I have examined the altars in scores of churches in Europe and America and the one design which pleases us is that of an altar of a certain church over in New Jersey. The altar is rather plain and it is made of Sienna marble, white with yellow streaks. So many altars seem to us to have too much gingerbread in their designs. If you wish us to send you a photograph of the altar which we have in mind, we shall be glad to do so. Of course, the size of our altar will depend upon the space in which it is to sit.

THE REREDOS. We want our reredos to be made of wood and we don't want too many figures upon it. The plan or drawing of the reredos which your firm made about a year ago had entirely too many figures on it. We hope to have a few figures on our reredos in rather low relief but the figures should be on the ribs and not on the panels. We want the panels to be somewhat plain and the top of the reredos to be somewhat in the form of a canopy with rich carvings in the wood. Might it not be well for you to submit two or three roughly sketched types of reredos? We want this feature to be exactly right as it will be one of the most important features in the Chapel.

THE CHOIR STALLS. A gift of one thousand dollars has been made for the pulpit. Mr. Cram has given us a generous space for the pulpit floor as I indicated to him. When a fellow preaches in a pulpit which is narrow and restricted he feels as though he were preaching in a box. The pulpit in the Princeton chapel which burned down was of this nature. On one occasion when I preached there they had a flagstaff on the one edge of the pulpit and it was impossible for me to make gestures with my right hand unless I turned round and faced the congregation to the left. The desk portion of the pulpit ought to be of the right height and the right size. We don't want any part of the pulpit, either the desk or the rails or the panels, to be too high so that the boys of the choir, when they are standing up, are hidden by the pulpit. I hope that we can combine the feeling of openness with the feeling of beauty and worship and comfort in the pulpit.

THE LECTERN. More freedom may be granted in the design of the lectern because the lectern is a narrow, straight piece of furniture.

THE MOVABLE PULPIT. Our intention is to have a beautiful liturgical service on each Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon the service will be short, only about one-half hour in length. The speaker will occupy about eight minutes. The rest of the time will be given to music with a short prayer and a short passage of Scripture. In the morning we shall have the choir and the preacher in gowns. In the afternoon there will be no gowns. The service will be open and free and short. To this end one of our friends has given us a thousand dollars for a movable pulpit which can be placed each Sunday afternoon at the head of the steps right at the chancel. The speaker, instead of speaking from the regular pulpit, will stand at the head of the steps and use this movable pulpit for his notes or manuscript. Mr. Cram suggests that this movable pulpit be made of wrought iron by a very skillful iron worker whom you have in Boston or by Samuel Yellin of Philadelphia. The movable pulpit can be made simple and yet beautiful.

THE FONT. As you may remember, Mr. Cram more recently decided that the font should stand close to the aisle in the middle of the eastern transept. You might submit two or three plain or rough sketches of the font and from the rough sketches we could make the finished sketch. Might it not be wise for you to send Mrs. Irvine and me some rough sketches or drawings of all of these pieces of furniture so that you will avoid going to the trouble of making a drawing with great care and then have us reject it? . . .

Most cordially yours,
W. M. IRVINE

TO THE MERCERSBURG CLASSIS

May 10, 1927.

Fathers and Brethren:

The past year has been a very unusual one for me. As you all know, on October 13, 1926 we dedicated our new Academy Chapel. I had worked hard for a period of more than ten years to secure the Chapel. During the past three years I gave all my spare time day and night to this important project. Mrs. Irvine and I had studied Gothic architecture in Europe and America. In those years we saw probably one thousand churches, chapels and cathedrals and we studied intimately one hundred of them. We were in touch with some of the leading architects and artists of the world and the Chapel at Mercersburg is a result of much of that study. I know it will please the members of The Classis when I tell them that already we have found the Chapel with its architectural beauty and superb symbolism to be of the greatest practical benefit in the spiritual life of our boys. The discipline of the school this year has been the best in the history of the institution. Many parents write to us from month to month about the splendid influence which the Chapel is having upon their sons.

The second outstanding event in my spiritual life during the past year was my ordination to the Christian ministry, which very happy event took place on the afternoon of Sunday, January 30th. I shall always feel under the greatest obligations to the members of this Classis, and especially to Dr. I. W. Hendricks, for interpreting the constitution of our church in such a way that my ordination was made possible. The

Rev. W. J. Muir, the Academy Field Secretary, also had a large share in the preliminary arrangements for my ordination. After I was ordained I received letters from many ministers in the church and from ministers in other denominations telling me how glad they were that I had been ordained. It seems that the ordination of a man after he has served the greater part of his life in active work emphasizes the fact that ordination to the Christian ministry is a high privilege and a ceremony of the greatest importance. Naturally I was greatly pleased by these letters as I know the members of The Classis will be on hearing about them.

The third outstanding event in the present scholastic year to me personally was the burning of our Main Hall. This was the oldest building in any institution in the Reformed Church. It was the home of The Theological Seminary in the long ago. Coming immediately after the building of the Chapel the fire was a real calamity to us. We have given a contract for a new Main Hall which in architectural beauty and fireproof construction will surpass the old Main Hall. One of our hardest problems will be to carry the fine traditions and sentiments of the old building over into the new.

I have helped to conduct services in our Academy Chapel from week to week as in former years. Splendid help has been given to us in these services by our Academy Chaplain, the Rev. Francis R. Casselman. Occasionally I have gone away from Mercersburg to make addresses or to preach sermons but on account of our building operations I have not been able to do very much of this kind of work during the past year.

We carry a regular benevolence budget in our Academy expenses. The funds in this budget, including the offerings which are made at our regular Sunday morning services, amount to approximately three thousand dollars a year. By means of these funds we have supported a medical missionary in China since the year 1902. This special work in China will probably be discontinued for a year or two, or until conditions become more settled in that country. We also use parts of this fund for the education of six boys in Mesopotamia. We use the surplus in the budget for many different charitable purposes helping to meet the needs of people in various parts of the world. Our gifts for charity are guarded religiously and we try to place every penny where it will count for the greatest influence and helpfulness.

Hoping that every member of The Classis will be kept well and prosperous throughout the coming year and that the richest blessings of Heaven will rest upon us all, I am

Most faithfully yours,
W. M. IRVINE

* * * * *

The following extracts are printed from the address Dr. Irvine delivered in 1923, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of his headmastership:

" One of the most satisfactory things in the growth of the Academy during the past thirty years has been the development of the Mercersburg spirit. Mercersburg spirit in the words of one of our alumni is ' Perfect devotion to the Mercersburg ideal.' The greatest ideal of Mercersburg is character. It is the spirit of overcoming, the spirit of giving, the spirit of reverence. It is seen in the words of our motto: ' Hard Work, Fair Play, Clean Life,' this sentiment having been formulated by the Headmaster and his wife. It is made clear in the Latin inscription on our shield, namely, ' Via crucis, via lucis,' a sentiment formulated nearly sixty years ago by Dr. Henry Harbaugh, the writer of our Academy Hymn, and his confrères, when they organized Mercersburg College. It is also evident in the Latin motto on our Coat-of-Arms: ' Integritas, Virilitas, Fidelitas,'—' Purity, Courage, Faithfulness,' a sentiment which was formulated at the time Keil Hall was built, by W. A. McLaughlin, our former instructor in Latin, Dr. Westcott of the Latin Department at Princeton, and Mercersburg's Headmaster. Certain sentiments of the Mercersburg spirit are created and inspired by the good preaching which is heard here from Sunday to Sunday.

" The flower of Mercersburg is seen not only in the life of our individual boys and in what they accomplish in their various professions but it is also seen in our missionary activities. We were the first preparatory school to have our own missionary in a foreign field. For a period of twenty-two years we have been supporting a medical missionary in China. Our missionary gives comfort and healing to more than twenty-six thousand patients each year. The gifts of Mercersburg boys have brought blessings to more than three hundred thousand patients during the past twenty-two years. Many special gifts have also been made. In addition to the support of the missionary from year to year we have each year educated six Chinese boys in a school in Hunan Province, the principal of the school being a Mercersburg alumnus, Dr. W. E. Hoy. Our boys, within the past few years, have built a room in the leper hospital in India which is under the supervision of the Rev. Sam Higginbottom. They have also contributed a room to the Solarium in a hospital immediately under the Arctic Circle in Alaska which was presided over by the late Archdeacon Hudson Stuck. The gifts of our boys, although moderate in amount, have taken on probably a hundred different forms of doing good somewhere in the world.

" We have also produced a certain type of boy—the Mercersburg boy. He is democratic, sane, and is not afraid of hard work. On the majority of occasions he shows good, common sense, reverences his body and keeps it clean. He is self-poised, patriotic, and liberty-loving. He plays a hard game but he is always a gentleman in sports. He appreciates the riches of mental discipline, is sympathetic, knows how to accept the challenge of difficulty and hardship, loves the beautiful, and is a Christian. Not all of our boys measure up to this standard but the majority do. It is a delight to work with and for boys of such character.

" If time would permit, there are many other subjects which might be discussed in this address. We merely mention them. I should like to speak about the Y. M. C. A., the Literary Societies, the Intersociety Debate which creates as much enthusiasm as the Letter Game in football; the Mercersburg Fifteen, which is our truly literary club; the musical organizations, and our athletic record. I might speak of the discipline, a most important subject in a boys' school; and of Study

Hall, which, like original sin, is always with us. Undoubtedly the hardest problem the faculty have to solve is how to keep the ranks in Study Hall from being too crowded. I might speak of the gymnasium wherein every Mercersburg boy is taught to box, wrestle and swim, or of our scholarship in the colleges wherein, according to the opinion of Headmasters of certain other schools, Mercersburg wins more than her share of honors. I could speak of Mercersburg men working in eighteen different foreign countries as missionaries, teachers, counsellors, diplomats, or representatives of great business firms. I could give a very interesting paragraph on the correspondence of the Headmaster, which, in many years, reaches the great total of fifteen thousand letters. In that correspondence are hundreds of letters from grateful parents and a few letters in which bitter criticism is expressed. The boys of the school would call these 'bouquets and brickbats.' A Headmaster has a marvelous opportunity throughout the year to study the psychology of life as seen in boys and parents. It is all very interesting and much of it is very inspiring."[1]

* * * * *

We quote the tribute paid to Dr. Irvine by Curtis D. Wilbur, Secretary of the Navy in President Coolidge's cabinet:

"My acquaintance with Dr. Irvine began in 1887 when I was a member of the Naval Academy football team. I met him on the football field as a member of the Princeton team. It was a great pleasure to renew that acquaintance when on his invitation I spoke at the graduating exercises at Mercersburg Academy in 1924, and there to see the fruits of a lifetime of toil of this faithful servant of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. It was a great pleasure to witness the joy of Dr. Irvine and his good wife at the prospect of building the new chapel in which the students of Mercersburg Academy might meet to worship the God he reverenced and to Whose service he had dedicated his life. I share in the deep sense of loss which has come to Mercersburg Academy. I had counted the renewal of my friendship with Dr. Irvine as one of the assets of life, to be enjoyed more and more as the years went on." [2]

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[1] Quoted in Irvine Memorial Volume, pp. 9–13.

We close this chapter by quoting from the last baccalaureate sermon Dr. Irvine ever delivered. It was addressed to the Class of 1928 on June 3, 1928, in the Academy Chapel, and closed with these paragraphs:

"Lying close to the idea of nobility of life is the idea of consecration. Consecration in your life may go back to a time when you did not even know the meaning of the word consecration. You will pardon a personal reference. Not so long ago my own mother, with whose eighty-five years 'the shadows are lengthening in the west,' told me that on the day I was born she consecrated me. I was her first-born son. She was poor, but she hoped that in some way or other, I could be educated and should help to make the world better. It is one of the greatest joys of my life that I have tried to help answer my mother's prayer.

"Each of you is the child of many prayers. Your mother, whether she be on earth now or in Heaven, wants you to be noble and true. Have you in Mercersburg tried to answer your mother's prayers? After you leave this place will you make your mother's prayers come true by carrying heaven in your heart, by letting God do His utmost for you?

"When they were excavating Pompeii they came across a Patrician mother who in all the terror had evidently saved herself. And then she went back to rescue her little daughter. After two thousand years they found her with her arms about her beloved child, a perfect picture of mother-love. Our dear Saviour wishes to put His arms around you. May you let Him do it, and may each of you be God's good man." [3]

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[2] Quoted *Ibid.*, p. 87.

[3] *Reformed Church Messenger*, July 26, 1928.

CHAPTER XXVIII

Dr. Edwards Comes to Mercersburg

"IT is a real joy to see you at these various educational gatherings. Some of us had to begin in a very small way many years ago to develop our abilities to reach the higher planes in this kind of work. You had a magnificent training through all the years and when it came to being a Head Master, like that goddess of old who came from the brain of Zeus, you sprang into the arena with all your powers developed."[1]

When Dr. Irvine wrote these words to Dr. Boyd Edwards in 1923, they were almost prophetic. In any case they show clearly what all Dr. Irvine's friends knew, that he had an unbounded admiration for the personality and ability of the Head Master of The Hill School. For twenty-two successive years Dr. Edwards had come to Mercersburg to preach to the boys, and to quote Dr. Irvine's frequent statement, "No preacher was more welcome or more beloved." Those who heard Dr. Edwards' eloquent tribute to his friend and brother in educational work, on that sad morning of June 14, 1928, felt instinctively that the spirit of Mercersburg Academy and the unfinished work of its first great Head Master could be carried on most successfully by Dr. Edwards.

This common consciousness was expressed by the Board of Regents when Dr. Edwards was challenged to take up the work that Dr. Irvine had so suddenly been called upon to relinquish. When Dr. Edwards accepted the call to become the Head Master of The Mercersburg Academy, it was felt that he would prove to be a worthy successor of the great man who had created the new Mercersburg.

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[1] W. M. Irvine to Boyd Edwards, January 31, 1923.

As Dr. Irvine said, Dr. Edwards had had a magnificent training through all the years. He was " born at Lisle, New York, May 5, 1876, son of Mortimer Burr Edwards and Harriet Louise Boyd. He is of the seventh generation from Jonathan Edwards, the noted New England preacher. His father was a lumberman and member of the New York State Assembly, who all his mature life was an officer of the Church, serving as a trustee, deacon, and Sunday School superintendent. His mother, who was a teacher in her early life, coached her son in Caesar and Virgil.

" Dr. Edwards was graduated from Phillips-Andover in 1896 and while at the Academy was a member of the school baseball team, president of the Society of Inquiry and Debating Society. He was graduated from Williams College in 1900 as president of his class, president of the Y. M. C. A., and member of the varsity baseball and football teams. He belonged to the Zeta Psi Fraternity. He was an Alumni Trustee 1923–28, and president of the General Alumni Association, 1924–25. At the Special War Memorial Commencement, when degrees were also awarded to General Pershing, Admiral Sims, Clarence E. Barbour, Lewis Perry, Franklin K. Lane and Robert K. Moton, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. After graduation from college he served for one year with the International Council of the Y. M. C. A. as preparatory school secretary, visiting schools and colleges in the United States and Canada, speaking and organizing. In 1901–1904 he studied at Union Seminary, New York, doing outside work as Bible teacher at the Holbrook School at Ossining, and as superintendent of young people's work in the Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. After graduation in 1904 he was ordained to the Congregational ministry in the Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church as assistant pastor. The Church was the largest of the denomination in the world and had a great group of young people, who constituted the special problem and opportunity of Dr. Edwards.

" On May 24, 1904, he was wedded to Miss Frances McCarroll, daughter of the Hon. William McCarroll, of New

York. Mrs. Edwards is a graduate of Smith College, 1903, and their one child, Beatrice Clyde Edwards, was graduated from Miss Beard's School in 1924 and from Smith College in 1928. She is married to David Richardson Fall, Williams, 1928, who is now the Head Master of the Asheville School in North Carolina.

" Dr. Edwards was called to the associate pastorship of the South Congregational Church, Brooklyn, in 1905, and became Junior Pastor there, succeeding Dr. Albert J. Lyman, who assumed an emeritus relationship. From 1907–10 he was president of the Brooklyn Sunday School Union. In 1910 he accepted a call to the Hillside Presbyterian Church in Orange, N. J., where he organized a vigorous institutional work for a congregation representing various elements in the general community life. In 1920 he was elected a trustee of Mt. Holyoke College. In 1922 he went to The Hill School, Pottstown, Pa., as Head Master, and during his administration, there was completed the War Memorial Building containing Assembly Hall, Library, Masters' Club, and rooms for various literary and musical organizations. There were also five other buildings added to the school property, the endowment was doubled, the scholarship was markedly advanced, and the enrollment of the institution was raised to the highest point in its history.

" At the close of his service the student body of The Hill School provided $1,000 for the publication of the sermons and addresses delivered by their beloved Head Master at The Hill; the faculty presented him with a silver service, the Sixth Form gave a coffee service, and the Fathers' Association presented a testimonial gift of $5,000 with appreciative resolutions. In 1925 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology at the University of Pennsylvania; and in 1931 the degree of Doctor of Laws from Franklin and Marshall College.

" Dr. Edwards first came to Mercersburg as a preacher 22 years ago and has returned annually on the last Sunday of April throughout the intervening period. During his entire ministry he has been interested in the religious life of the

Boyd Edwards, D.D., S.T.D., LL.D.
Head Master

Mrs. Boyd Edwards

academic world, either as a member of the faculty at summer conferences at Asheville School, Silver Bay, Blairstown and Northfield, or as preacher at Amherst, Cornell, Mt. Holyoke, Princeton, Rutgers, Smith, Vassar, Williams, Yale and at the Academies of Andover, Exeter, Hotchkiss, Lawrenceville, Taft, Blair, and Mercersburg." [2]

Dr. Edwards was elected Head Master of Mercersburg Academy July 6, 1928. From the Senior Master of The Hill School, Dr. A. G. Rolfe, came expressions of appreciation from the school that he had served so devotedly and successfully for six years. " Dr. Edwards does know the heart of a boy. He and Mrs. Edwards have made The Hill a real home for many a lonely lad, and many a lonely man, and it must be a source of abiding satisfaction to them as they go from here to know that they carry with them the affection of all who have known them here." [3]

The Hill School *News* spoke of the work of Mrs. Edwards as follows: " No words can adequately express the wonderful work which Mrs. Edwards has done for The Hill and every boy in the school." [4]

Shortly after Dr. Edwards' election to the headmastership of Mercersburg Academy, the President of the Alumni Association sent the following greeting, expressing the confidence and good will of the seven thousand alumni of the institution:

U. S. S. Mayflower,
Boston, Mass.,
July 14, 1928.

Doctor Boyd Edwards,
The Hill School,
Pottstown, Penna.

My dear Doctor Edwards:

News has just been received of your election to the Headmastership of Mercersburg Academy. In behalf of the Alumni Association of which I have the honor to be President, I send the sincere and enthusiastic congratulations of the members of that organization and wish for you every measure of success.

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[2] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* October, 1928 [with later additions.]

[3] *Ibid.,* October, 1928.

[4] *Ibid.,* October, 1928.

The Academy has suffered a great shock in the death of Dr. Irvine. We of the alumni who have been pleased to be known as "his boys," to whom was given unsparingly his deep and devoted love and for whom he gave his life, feel that shock as adoring sons. We will always miss him. No one can take his place in our hearts or in our lives. He will forever live to us who have basked in the sunshine of his radiant personality and who have walked hand in hand with him as he guided our footsteps along the paths of life. The shock of his physical departure has been softened by the selection of his dear friend to carry on in his stead. We feel that perhaps you more than any other have been destined to take up his work. You know of his ideas, of his plans for Mercersburg. You are imbued with his lofty ideals and have breathed for many years the spirit of Mercersburg which is his spirit. It will continue to actuate the highest concept of Christian manhood in the fortunate youths who breathe it in student days and all who come in contact with it directly or indirectly.

We the Alumni pledge to give our full support in the great role you are soon to assume. We will help you in every possible way to lead Mercersburg through saddened days into the radiant future which you will make possible as you bear the torch, which I am confident Doctor Irvine has passed on to you with a smile of pride. You will feel his strong arm about you and the strength of his powerful body against you as you walk along his paths. His little chuckle will cheer you. Listen for it when the cares seem heaviest and the obstacles highest. You are fortified by the wonderful memories of him you possess from twenty-some years of companionship. It would seem God has been preparing you for just such a mission as now lies before you.

The message you gave us at the services for Doctor Irvine is most beautiful. I entered the Chapel heavy of heart and in the depths of sorrow. After you had spoken I understood the different form he had then taken in our lives and in the life of Mercersburg. His work was not ended; it had just begun.

Last Thursday I visited Williams College. It is beautiful and I was pleased to see where you received some of your education.

Please give Mrs. Edwards the warmest regards of Mrs. Boone and myself and tell her we wish for her great happiness in the role she will assume as your helpmate at Mercersburg. Dear Mrs. Irvine has taken deep root in our hearts and we shall miss her tremendously every time we return to the Academy. Mrs. Irvine has rendered a service of inestimable value to the school. The accomplishments of the past thirty-five years are those only possible because of the harmonious labors of two sympathetic and devoted spirits.

The Alumni plan a reunion on October thirteenth. We must make it the biggest and best we have ever held as a token of faith to Doctor Irvine and as an assurance to you of our allegiance to our new Headmaster.

With kindest personal wishes from Mrs. Boone and me, I am,

Faithfully yours,
JOEL T. BOONE,
Lt. Commander, Medical Corps,
U. S. Navy.[5]

Dr. Edwards' reply to the alumni deserves a high place in the recent history of the school:

24 July 28

My dear Commander Boone:

Your fine word on behalf of the Mercersburg alumni is deeply appreciated. You know with what reverence and purpose I accept the work Dr. Irvine left us all to do, and how greatly my heart is encouraged and my arm strengthened by your strong assurances of loyalty and good will. I thank you most heartily.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) BOYD EDWARDS.[6]

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[5] *Ibid.*, October, 1928.

[6] *Ibid.*, October, 1928.

When the Academy opened on September 4, in charge of Dr. Edwards, it had the largest enrollment in its history. On October 13, at the annual alumni reunion, a memorial service in the chapel in honor of Dr. Irvine was attended by over a thousand people, including Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Mrs. William Mann Irvine, and representatives of institutions of learning, the state, and the church.

It was decided that thereafter October 13 would be set apart as a day of reverent recollection and called " Irvine Day " in order to interpret to the boys of the school the life, character, and service of the first Head Master of the Academy.

During the year the assembly hall housed in the annex of Main Hall was made the center of school life. The Blashfield mural, " The Spirit of Mercersburg," was made the keynote of the room. A new athletic program was developed that had for its slogan " Athletics for the sake of the boy."

During the following year, 1930, the Board announced two outstanding characteristics as marking the activities of the school, namely, a notable advance in scholarship and a most satisfactory improvement in the athletic program. It was further stated that the record of the school in the college board examinations passed by the boys was the best record the Academy had ever had. Intra-mural athletics were developed to a high degree of interest without detracting from the interscholastic spirit.

In the fall of 1930, 225 new boys entered the Academy. The Board of Regents under Dr. Edwards' leadership decided upon a program of extensive development for Mercersburg to mark the completion of the first century of the educational enterprise at that place. The special Committee on the Future Development of Mercersburg appointed by Colonel Barnes included the following: Regents: Colonel James Barnes, Dr. Earl L. Douglass, Mr. Junius P. Fishburn; Alumni: Captain Joel T. Boone, Mr. William Findlay Downs, Mr. John S. Hershey; Faculty: Mr. Roy M. Andrew, Dr. Calvin A. Brown, Mr. John M. Drumm, Mr. Herbert M. Rublee. Mr. Daniel Heefner, the Alumni Secretary, served as secretary of the committee. The plan for future development included a recitation and laboratory building, a library building with an auditorium, and an endowment for the protection of faculty members of long service against the day of disability and the day of retirement. It was the opinion of the general committee that the sum of $1,200,000 was required to cover the needs as outlined in the plan.

At the close of two years of academic service as Head Master, Dr. Edwards made a report to the alumni, a portion of which is printed here: "I am greatly heartened by the universal good will which I find expressed and manifested toward Mercersburg, historically and prophetically. The members of our Faculty are not satisfied simply to do their own job and let the world go by in its need for service but they coöperate in significant movements and relate themselves in a fine spirit of coöperation to large general causes as well as in fine expressions of citizenship and service locally in the village and county. Dr. Calvin A. Brown is serving his alma mater, Franklin and Marshall, as alumni trustee. Mr. Drumm has completed his second year as President of the Business Officers of the Secondary Schools. Mr. J. G. Miller has vitalized his service as Registrar by very intelligent participation in educational gatherings, especially the annual meeting of the Middle States Association. Dr. Rutledge has won the Burroughs Medal for the best nature writing of the past year. Coach Miller has served as president of the National Interscholastic Swimming Association. Mr. Graham is a member of the Blairstown Conference Committee. Mr. Heefner is a member of the American Alumni Council of Colleges and Schools. The Headmaster has also had opportunity to serve in similar fashion as Trustee of Mount Holyoke, Chairman of the National Preparatory School Committee of the Y. M. C. A.; member of the National Student Division of the Y. M. C. A. and Presiding Officer of the Blairstown, Princeton, and Buck Hill Falls Conferences of boys from the Eastern preparatory schools. Seven of our masters serve regularly as readers for the College Board. Five have been asked to serve as teachers in summer tutoring camps. Ten did special graduate study in American universities or abroad during the summer vacation. All this indicates that the Faculty of this school is vitally related to the life of the day and in earnest about an ever increasing qualification for effective teaching service in the school.

" We realize full well that the general conditions throughout the country are depressing. The summer camps fell off twenty per cent in membership last summer. The schools in general have shrunk in enrollment about ten per cent this fall. We, of course, have shared in that leanness and our numbers are reduced about six per cent, but the work of the school has gone on with a greater earnestness and one happy compensating feature has been our ability to bring the working boys on the campus, or close to the campus, increasing the comfort and convenience of the terms of their living here. In view of the leanness of the times, which we are all experiencing, it has seemed to us to be considerate not to make any appeal for funds, either general or specifically for the Library. The letter which usually went out at Christmas time appealing for library gifts has been omitted this year.

" We simply send you this general statement of the spirit of the school, the quality of its work and the range of its interests. The fact that last year the boys who were prepared for college by Commencement time went out to sixty-three different colleges and universities (as compared with forty-seven of the previous year) will indicate the ever widening range of Mercersburg's contribution and influence." [7]

In a factual summary made by the Head Master for the Board of Regents, meeting on January 30, 1932, Dr. Edwards reported that extensive repairs and improvements had been made on the campus and in the buildings, including furnishings, equipment, and decorations, but spoke more especially of the achievements in scholarship that had been made in three years and a half, of the increased study hall facility, of the elimination of tutoring except in cases of extreme neces-

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[7] *Ibid.*, winter, 1931.

THE REV. EARL L. DOUGLASS, D.D.
President of the Board of Regents. Mercersburg, '09.

sity and the substitution of a free help period for the boys, and of the high records made by the graduates.

At the spring meeting of the Board on May 27, 1933, five new members were elected: Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Dean Luther P. Eisenhart of the Princeton Graduate School, Surgeon-General Merritt W. Ireland, U. S. Army, Retired, Dr. Alfred E. Stearns, Head Master Emeritus of Phillips Andover Academy, and Dr. John Timothy Stone, President of the Presbyterian Seminary of Chicago. Colonel James Barnes, who had been a member of the Board of Regents since 1922 and its President for seven years, found it necessary on account of impaired health to be relieved of the duties of his membership in the Board. He was retained, however, as an honorary member. Colonel Barnes had rendered conspicuous service to Mercersburg Academy as the successor of the Hon. W. Rush Gillan in the Presidency of the Board of Regents.

Colonel Barnes, whose death occurred on April 30, 1936, at his home, " Stony Brook," Princeton, N. J., was a colorful personality, a leader of men, who by his far-reaching and varied experiences as a war-correspondent, soldier, traveller, writer of fascinating books of history and adventure, was a real hero to the boys at Mercersburg. They admired him and he loved them.

One June 8, 1934, Rev. Earl L. Douglass, D.D., '09, was elected President of the Board of Regents; Commander Joel T. Boone, U. S. N. (Medical) '09, Vice-Chairman; Mr. John M. Drumm, Secretary-Treasurer. Henry H. Spangler, Esq., '93, was elected to the Board to fill the vacancy created by Colonel Barnes' resignation.

The election of Dr. Douglass as President of the Board brought a graduate of The Mercersburg Academy to the position of the highest honor and responsibility in the school for the first time in its history. It was a happy selection. As a member of the Class of 1909, he had received the Gold Cross annually presented by Mrs. Irvine to the boy having the best influence for good in the school. The way the boys sized him up in his senior year is good evidence of his real worth: " The fortunate recipient of the honor this year was

Earl LeRoy Douglass, of McKeesport, Pa. 'Hiram' or just 'Doug,' as he is more commonly known to the fellows, is one of the best and most brilliant fellows who ever came to Mercersburg. He entered school in the fall of 1907, as a member of the class of 1909. In the senior elections Douglass got his share of the honors, being voted most energetic man, best debater, most respected man and the fellow who has done most for his class. He is president of his class and was a member of the Senate and the Fifteen, president of Irving Literary Society, on the *Karux* Board and editor-in-chief of the 'Lit.' He was also a hard and earnest worker in the Y. M. C. A. and had charge of the Bible Study work.

"He has made an enviable reputation as a declaimer and a debater, having been a member of two Irving debating teams and twice winner of the individual prize in the inter-society debate.

"In the two years which he has spent in Mercersburg he has made hosts of friends. He has been a leader in all the activities of school life and whenever he championed a cause the school was always with him. He has a hearty, whole-souled sincerity about him which is fascinating and has endeared him to all the fellows. His high ideals coupled with his natural ability will make him a power in his college life and the best and heartiest wishes of every one of his many friends go with him always, wishing him the best this good old world affords."[8]

He did not disappoint the hopes of his classmates. After graduating from Princeton in 1913, and from the Union Theological Seminary in 1916, he was ordained to the Presbyterian ministry in 1917. He served as pastor of the First Church, Tonawanda, Pa., from 1917 to 1923; then in the First Church of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., from 1923 to 1931; after which he took charge of the Summit Church of Germantown, Pa. He is a preacher of great power and influence, and an author of note. He has served as President of the Board of the Silver Bay Association, as Trustee of Wooster College, and as a member of the Executive Committee for International Friendship Through the Churches. He is one of Dr. Irvine's boys, serving with honor and distinction his Alma Mater in the days of Dr. Edwards.

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[8] *Ibid.*, August, 1909.

In addition to his many duties in connection with the School during the eight years of his administration, Dr. Edwards has rendered a vast amount of auxiliary service to the educational and religious life of the nation. He has served as:

Trustee of Mt. Holyoke College;

Chairman National Preparatory School Committee of National Council Y. M. C. A.;

President of Avon Club of Mercersburg (one hundred village and faculty members);

Single delegate representing American Preparatory Schools at first American Conference of International Student Service (forty nations);

Vice-President of Association of Schools, Colleges, and Seminaries of Reformed Church;

Member of Advisory Council of Reformed Church Education Board;

Vice-President of Association of Schools and Colleges of Middle Atlantic States (700 institutions);

Member of Council of Reformed Churchmen's League;

Speaker at Tercentenary Celebration of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania (he was awarded the Huguenot Cross in 1930);

McCauley Lecturer in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster; and

Chaplain of Lake Placid Club.

In Dr. Edwards' administration, the eight thousand alumni of The Mercersburg Academy have been assuming responsibilities in an unprecedented way. Many alumni associations have been fully organized and have frequently been inspired by the visits and addresses of the Headmaster. With the inauguration of the Living Alumni Fund, a voluntary association of former students of the Academy, there began a new era for the institution in the way of thoroughly organized service to their School.

Through the efforts of Daniel Heefner, Alumni Secretary for fourteen years, concerning whom a metropolitan newspaper columnist recently said, "He stands foremost in the world in his particular field,"[9] a complete Alumni Directory was issued in January 1936 as a part of the celebration of the one hundred years of educational enterprise at Mercersburg. This alumni list has been growing. Dr. Edwards sent 164 boys to the various colleges and universities in 1933; 148 in 1934; and 181 in 1935. The growth has not only been a matter of numbers but also of loyalty under the inspiring leadership of the Headmaster and of the President of the Alumni Council, Dr. Joel T. Boone.

Dr. Edwards is not only a successful administrator, but he is also known nationally as a scholar, educator, and religious leader. He has been in demand as a commencement speaker and college preacher in many of the leading educational institutions of the Eastern and Middle Atlantic States. Many of his addresses have been published and widely distributed.

He was Chairman of a committee of distinguished educators who, on June 1, 1935, issued a report on *Encouraging Vital Religion in Our Schools,* the purpose of which was "to suggest how the religious growth of all students may be cultivated, and in particular how the spiritual leaders, so sorely needed, may be reached and given that stimulation which will lead to their fullest development."[10]

He was editor of *Mr. Rolfe of The Hill, Prayers in The Hill School Chapel,* and the volume entitled *Religion in the Preparatory Schools,* embodying the proceedings of the National Conference of Preparatory School Masters, over which he presided at Atlantic City in October 1932; and he was co-editor of *The Chapel Hymnal,* published in 1931.

In addition, Dr. Edwards is the author of *Have Faith in Youth,* and recently, at the request of the Regents-Faculty-Alumni Committee for the Centennial of Education at Mercersburg, he has published a number of addresses delivered to the school during the first eight years of his headmastership. The volume, entitled *Boys Will Be Men,* is the finest revelation that we have of the life and work and spirit of the present Headmaster of The Mercersburg Academy. The titles of these addresses express the spirit of education at Mercersburg in the year 1936: "Honoring a Boy," "The Way of the Cross," "The Way of Light," "Clean Life, Hard Work, Fair Play," "Through Fact to Truth," "Do Not Cheat Yourself," "That Which is High," "The Light of Sincerity," "Through Friendship to Power," "Be Yourself," "Good Sportsmanship," "Living the Golden Rule"—these phrases are prophetic of the future of the Academy under the guidance of Dr. and Mrs. Edwards.

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[9] "Girard," in the Philadelphia *Inquirer,* August 1, 1936.

[10] Foreword to *Encouraging Vital Religion in Our Schools,* published by the National Council of Student Christian Associations, 1935.

CHAPTER XXIX

The Mercersburg Academy Chapel

FROM the days of Lewis Mayer and Frederick Augustus Rauch to the days of William Mann Irvine and Boyd Edwards—one hundred years apart—the spiritual life of the boy at Mercersburg has been given first consideration. This history of a century of education at Mercersburg ought to make that fact very clear.

The Memorial Chapel at Mercersburg Academy is the visible symbol of the supreme importance of the things of the spirit. Occupying the highest elevation on the campus, the Chapel is like a city set on a hill, beautiful for situation. On approaching Mercersburg shortly after leaving the Lincoln Highway, the traveller gets a glimpse of the spire and the gilded cross one hundred and sixty feet in the air, yet almost dwarfed by the dark background of the winding circle of the South Mountains. At every turn of the road, the Chapel appears again and again, ever clearer and larger. On entering the village, the traveller loses sight of the structure for a few moments, and then all of a sudden the beautiful memorial chapel bursts upon him like a vision. "My impressions of the Chapel," said one of these visitors, "are that it is one of the most beautiful school Chapels that I have ever seen, in fact the most beautiful school Chapel in the scholastic world—better even than that of my old school in England, St. Edmunds, where they know how to build chapels."[1] It looks as if it belonged there, as if it always had been on that spot, and as if it would always remain there. And yet it is of very recent construction.

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[1] Dr. Mather A. Abbott, Headmaster of Lawrenceville, quoted in *The Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, October, 1926.

The Chapel is the crowning achievement of the life and work of Dr. Irvine. From the day he first entered Mercersburg as Headmaster, he dreamed about it. "When Headmaster and Mrs. Irvine came to Mercersburg to reorganize the institution from a College into an Academy, they had many ideals for the place. One of their dreams nearest to the heart was the erection of a beautiful School Chapel wherein each boy enrolled at Mercersburg might be inspired to see that religion is the queen of the sciences and that spiritual power is the greatest thing in life. Through these years the Chapel has been constantly kept in mind."[2]

Through the years dreams developed into plans. In 1916, Mr. Ralph Adams Cram, one of the most eminent ecclesiastical architects of modern times, was chosen to prepare preliminary plans for the exterior of the Chapel. The World War delayed the building of the structure and yet helped in the formulation of more definite and comprehensive plans. As the casualty lists began to mount until the Mercersburg boys who gave their lives in the World War numbered almost three score, the friends and alumni saw the fitness of concentrating all the memorials to Mercersburg men who had made the supreme sacrifice, in a Chapel of surpassing beauty, impressive dignity, and inspiring symbolism. To this thought was added by Dr. and Mrs. Irvine the idea of making the Chapel also a memorial to the thousands of mothers who had sent their boys to the Academy to be moulded into noble manhood. The Chapel was to be a shrine to the love of a mother and the deeds of heroic men.

On Tuesday morning, June 6, 1922, the ground-breaking ceremony for the new structure took place. The address for the occasion was delivered by Vice-President Calvin Coolidge, whose two sons were students at the Academy. He spoke on the value of the homely virtues which fail not—obedience, honesty, industry, thrift, and faith.

During their trip to Europe in 1923, Dr. and Mrs. Irvine studied carefully the structure and equipment of the leading churches and cathedrals in England and on the Continent.

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[2] *Ibid.*, April, 1922.

The result was that upon their return they brought with them invaluable suggestions for the enhancement of the beauty of the new structure. After the contracts had been given for the building, Dr. and Mrs. Irvine secured memorials, including stained glass windows, organ, chimes, altar, reredos, pulpit, lectern, and other furnishings to the value of almost two hundred thousand dollars.

In January 1924 the following article appeared in the Boston *Transcript:* " The Mercersburg Academy at Mercersburg, Pa., is preparing to build an unusually beautiful school chapel. Cram and Ferguson, of Boston, Mass., the eminent Gothic architects, have prepared the plans. Mr. Cram, who in a large measure has had personal charge of the making of these plans, assures the alumni and friends of Mercersburg Academy that when the chapel is finished and ready for dedication they shall have one of the most beautiful buildings on the American continent. The exterior of the chapel follows somewhat the same lines that are seen in the church at Nutley, England. The spire which rises to a height of one hundred sixty feet, and which will be one of the most commanding features in the beautiful Cumberland Valley in Southern Pennsylvania, is in a measure a replica of St. Mary's spire at Oxford. St. Mary's spire is thought to be about the most beautiful spire in Europe. Ground was broken for the chapel about a year ago, President and Mrs. Coolidge taking a very prominent part in the ceremonies. The cellar has already been dug and in the coming spring the foundations will be laid and the contract for the chapel given. This structure, including beautiful memorials, of which there are many, will cost approximately $500,000." [3]

During Commencement Week of 1924, on Tuesday, June 3, the service of the laying of the cornerstone of the Academy Chapel was held on the Front Campus. The academic procession was headed by Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Secretary of the Navy Curtis D. Wilbur, and Dr. William Mann Irvine. Addresses were delivered by Dr. John Timothy Stone and by the Secretary of the Navy. Then came a statement by Headmaster Irvine that revealed the very soul of the man:

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[3] Quoted *Ibid.,* January, 1924.

"This day helps to fulfil a great dream. We move forward in the creation of the most important building on our campus. Two years ago we broke ground; today we lay the cornerstone; within another two years the day of dedication will be here.

"How beautiful is the setting of this Chapel. It has a reredos of purple mountains. It faces the deep sky and the far-smiling land. It will be girt about with trees and flowers. The singing stars will pass over it at night. High up, one hundred and sixty feet above the cornerstone which we consecrate today, the highest point in our beautiful valley, will be the Cross of Christ welcoming the dawn and saying farewell to the golden light that opens when the sun has gone to rest.

"On this consecrated hill the beauty of nature will be rivalled by the beauty of the memorials. These memorials will be all that art and spiritual, heroic sentiment can make them. When men see the glorious, colored light pouring through the windows,—superb memorials to fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers and heroes,—when they hear from the pulpit great messages that touch the heart, when they kneel before the altar of the living God and consecrate themselves anew, they will realize that here is a shrine in which one may find the true interpretation of life.

"Here men will meditate upon their sins, their opportunities and their blessings. Here they will be convinced that it is never right to do wrong and that no man can successfully oppose God. Here they will know that 'Spiritual strength is the only strength because it is capable of infinite renewal.' Here they will learn that men may torture the body but not kill the soul, that the angels sang not only at Bethlehem but are always singing if one only listens. Here they will think only beautiful thoughts, form only high resolutions. At this place men will talk with their Heavenly Father in prayer and renew their allegiance. Here the music of organ and chimes and choir will inspire men, will form a 'bridge over which their faith may walk toward the eternal.' Like the great poets they will understand that sorrow is part of the birthright of man, that great life, true life can always be interpreted in terms of service, struggle, love, immortality. Here they will consecrate their hearts to Jesus Christ." [4]

After these addresses and formal ceremonies, Mr. George A. Wood, of Chambersburg, Chairman of the Building Committee, deposited a number of articles, pamphlets, and coins in the copper box of the cornerstone, and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, after spreading mortar on the stones with a silver trowel, pronounced the following words of consecration:

"We consecrate this Corner Stone 'To God in Christ and Youth in America,' in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Then Mrs. William Mann Irvine laid a wreath on the cornerstone, saying, "We place this wreath in memory of the fifty-six Mercersburg boys who laid down their lives in the World War."

Mrs. George A. Wood then laid another wreath, saying, "We place this wreath in honor of the six thousand three hundred Mercersburg mothers who have sent their boys to this Academy to be moulded into a noble manhood."

During the next two years Dr. and Mrs. Irvine, together with the architect, Mr. Cram, paid very careful attention to all the details in connection with the construction and furnishing of the building. Dr. Irvine expended a superhuman amount of energy in raising funds from thousands of friends of the institution whose generosity made possible this "dream of perfect beauty."

On October 13, 1926, the sixty-first birthday of Dr. Irvine, came the service of the dedication of the Chapel. It was the greatest of all days for Mercersburg. The Academy was honored by the presence of many distinguished guests. Promptly at ten o'clock in the morning, an academic procession was formed, headed by Dr. Irvine and Dr. Ralph Adams Cram. Slowly it entered the beautiful sanctuary. The Service of Dedication follows:

[4] *Ibid.*, July, 1924.

Mrs. Coolidge Leaving the Chapel
on Day of Dedication

1. Organ Prelude..Mr. John Groth, Academy Organist
   Largo from "Xerxes"—Handel
   Pièce Heroïque—César Franck
2. Processional: "The Church's One Foundation"
3. Bugle: "Assembly"......Mr. Arthur S. Witcomb
4. Invocation.......Dr. A. S. Dechant, Hanover, Pa.
5. Responsive Reading......Led by Dr. Irvin W. Hendricks, Chambersburg, Pa.
6. The Apostles' Creed......Led by Rev. Francis R. Casselman, Academy Chaplain
7. Solo: "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" (From the "Messiah")—Handel
   Mme. Marie Sundelius, Metropolitan Opera Association
8. Prayer..........Dr. C. Clever, Hagerstown, Md.
9. Bugle: "To the Colors"...Mr. Arthur S. Witcomb
10. Address: "Inspired Patriotism"........Dr. Jason Noble Pierce, Washington, D. C.
11. The Academy Hymn: "Jesus, I Live to Thee"
12. Address: "Dedication"....Dr. Charles R. Erdman, Princeton, N. J.
13. Solo: "Morning Hymn"—Henschel..Mme. Marie Sundelius
14. "Words of Dedication".......Dr. William Mann Irvine, Head Master
15. Hymn of Dedication: "O Comrade of the Human Heart"
    (Written for this occasion by Dr. Henry van Dyke).

O comrade of the Human Heart,
  O Son of Love Divine,
To Thy dear name we set apart,
  On this green hill, a shrine.

In Thee is manhood glorified,
  In Thee is God adored;
Our heavenly Brother, earthly Guide,
  Redeemer, Friend, and Lord.

To all our learning lend Thy light,
To all our work, Thy Grace;
Help us to honor Thee aright
Until we see Thy Face.

O Jesus Christ of Nazareth,
Who died to make us free,
In youth and till our latest breath
We'll trust and follow Thee.

16. Prayer of Consecration........Dr. George W. Richards, Lancaster, Pa.
17. Offering (For benefit of hospital in Chambersburg, Pa.)
Anthem: "The Heavens are Declaring"—Beethoven
Academy Choir
18. Recessional: "All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus' Name"
19. Benediction ....Dr. H. L. G. Kieffer, Frederick, Md.
20. Bugle: "Taps" ....Mr. Arthur S. Witcomb
21. Organ Postlude: Toccata, "Tu Es Petra"—Mulet
Mr. John Groth[5]

We can almost hear Dr. Irvine as we recall how he spoke the following solemn words of dedication:

"This building is the outward and visible symbol of what Mercersburg has tried to put into the hearts and lives of all her boys through the years—strength, beauty, sweetness, consecration. The strength of the granite, the beauty of the spire and stained glass, the sweetness in the voices of the carillon and the organ, the cross—always the emblem of consecration—above everything else, pointing toward Heaven. Strength of character, beauty of life, joy of work and play, following Jesus Christ—all are suggested here.

"But beauty must be an outward expression of truth felt by the heart, or beauty itself is dead. We have not aspired to build a museum of art, but a house of worship where man may draw near to God. This is a place not so much to be admired as to be revered, where boys will be inspired to be honest, humble, courageous, clean-hearted, patient, noble. If this Chapel does not make our boys better men, then we have failed.

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[5] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.

"This building with its glorious symbolism, its superb beauty of color, line, detail, with its compelling spiritual ideals gathered from the generations that are gone will teach generations yet unborn certain undying principles of life:

"That—Religion is the greatest thing in life and what is fine in us is for eternity.

"That—Real men hate sin and love holiness.

"That—A certain eminent writer who expressed the hope that God would speak again was wrong—God speaks every day.

"That—As in the long ago 'there came a sudden rush of melody down from the silent stars, with words few, beautiful, loving'—so today the angels are still singing for the ears of men to hear.

"That—The message of this Chapel is—God shall have our best.

"I do not forget that this Chapel is for boys. Many boys walk with Jesus like certain friends on the way to Emmaus, without knowing Him; or hear His voice like Samuel without recognizing it; but, may all, old and young, boys and parents, students and instructors,—may all who enter this Chapel see Jesus face to face and know His voice and be like the apostles, whose 'eyes were opened and they knew Him.'

"Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity, Three Persons and One God:

"To Thee we dedicate this House.

"Our Dear Father—Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our Father which art in heaven:

"To Thee we dedicate this House.

"Our Dear Saviour—Blessed Son of God; Head of the Church; Prophet, Priest, and King to Thy people; who died that we might live:

"To Thee we dedicate this House.

"God, the Holy Spirit—Proceeding from the Father and the Son; given to be our abiding Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter; Lord and Giver of Life:

"To Thee we dedicate this House.

"May the richest blessings of the Triune God abide in this place so that all who come here may ever rise to their higher selves. Our prayer is in Jesus' Name. Amen."[6]

Who can adequately describe a cathedral? A majestic building of great architectural beauty, deep religious sentiment, and infinite power of inspiration is indescribable. It must be seen. Its power must be felt. Only the soul and the technical skill of an architect can be equal to the task. A man like Dr. Ralph Adams Cram is justified in attempting to interpret one of his own masterpieces. He has done this in the following statement:

"The design of The Mercersburg Academy Chapel avoids all elaborate ornament. It is couched in terms of simplicity, directness and vigor, at least as far as the architects were capable of achieving this end. It is not studied directly from any ecclesiastical monument of the past. Gothic, it is in no respect archaeological, but develops in a sense from that middle period of mediaeval art when the austerity of the thirteenth century was moving toward the greater richness of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. It is essentially a building of this time, of this generation, but every effort has been made to preserve, through its modernism, the unbroken sequence of architectural tradition and spiritual energy which works back through the Christian religion and, without a break, to the great era of Mediaevalism.

"In point of construction, the church is solid and enduring, without any structural subterfuges of any sort. It is conceived not only in terms of form, but also of light, and, therefore, a great number of very large windows have been provided in all the walls, in order that these may be filled, and

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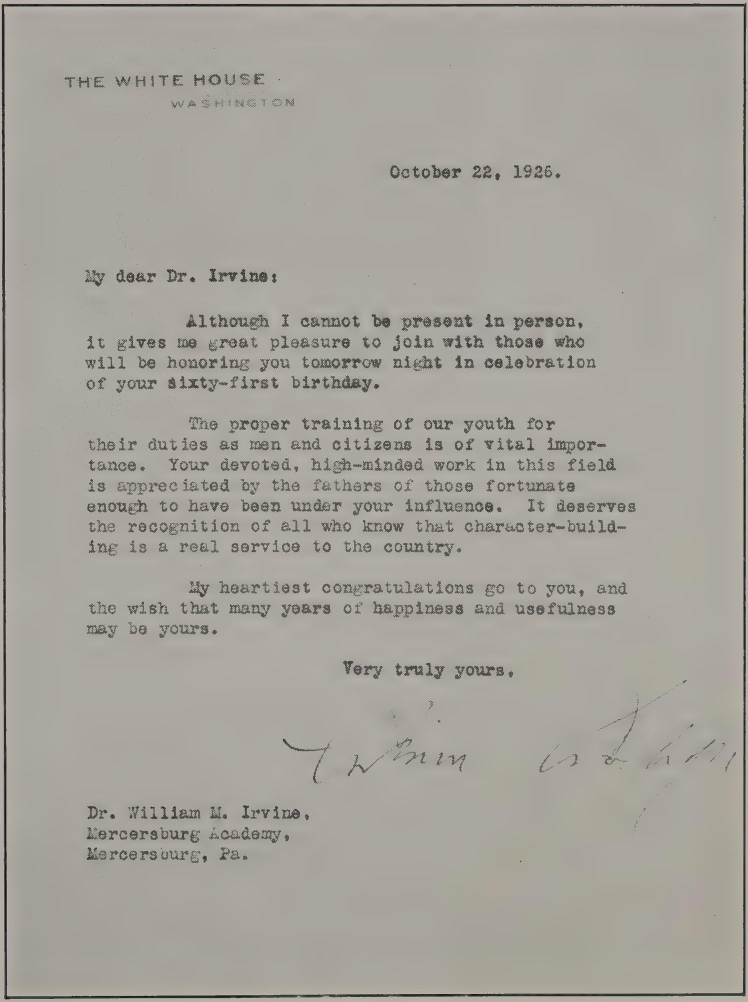
[6] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1926.

My dear Dr. Irvine:

Although I cannot be present in person, it gives me great pleasure to join with those who will be honoring you tomorrow night in celebration of your sixty-first birthday.

The proper training of our youth for their duties as men and citizens is of vital importance. Your devoted, high-minded work in this field is appreciated by the fathers of those fortunate enough to have been under your influence. It deserves the recognition of all who know that character-building is a real service to the country.

My heartiest congratulations go to you, and the wish that many years of happiness and usefulness may be yours.

Very truly yours,

Dr. William M. Irvine,
Mercersburg Academy,
Mercersburg, Pa.

Congratulatory Letter to Dr. Irvine
from President Calvin Coolidge

have been filled, with splendid memorial glass furnished by many artists.

"So far, with regard to the quality of the building in its relation to the students and those who use it for purposes of devotion and worship; in addition, it has been made a speaking monument to the entire countryside. Raised on the highest land at the Academy, with its tower and slender spire lifting high in the air, it is a proclamation in enduring stone, and to the whole community, of the vigor, the aspiration and the indestructible power of religion, not only in education but in human society."[7]

The week of dedication was made complete when Dr. Irvine received the following letter from the White House:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1926.

My dear Dr. Irvine:

Although I cannot be present in person, it gives me great pleasure to join with those who will be honoring you tomorrow night in celebration of your sixty-first birthday.

The proper training of our youth for their duties as men and citizens is of vital importance. Your devoted, high-minded work in this field is appreciated by the fathers of those fortunate enough to have been under your influence. It deserves the recognition of all who know that character-building is a real service to the country.

My heartiest congratulations go to you, and the wish that many years of happiness and usefulness may be yours.

Very truly yours,
CALVIN COOLIDGE[8]

Dr. William M. Irvine,
Mercersburg Academy,
Mercersburg, Pa.

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[7] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.
[8] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.

The memorials in the Academy Chapel are so numerous and so full of sacred sentiment that a detailed description of them is impossible in this volume. However, there are several of them that are so intertwined with historic associations that they must be treated as an essential part of the history of the Academy. The carillon in the belfry was presented by the family of Henry Bucher Swoope, Class of 1900, of Merion, Pa. It was Dr. Irvine's hope that the finest traditions and sentiments of the school might cluster about the carillon; so he decided to place inscriptions on the twenty heaviest bells and to ask Mr. Swoope for the privilege of placing the names of the members of Mr. Swoope's family on the five heaviest ones. Beginning with the largest bell, the inscriptions are as follows:

1. ROLAND To the Glory of God. This Carillon is the Gift of Henry Bucher Swoope, Class of 1900, and his Family.

2. MAUD "*Vere sonans fratribus consono,*" "Ringing true I am in harmony with my brothers." (Henry van Dyke)

3. CORA "O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord; praise Him and magnify Him forever." (Prayer Book)

4. EMMA-JANE

"Ring out the false, ring in the true,
Ring in the Christ that is to be." (Tennyson)

5. MARY-HELEN "*Musica juventutis gaudium consolatio senectutis.*" ("Music is the delight of youth, the consolation of age.") (Henry van Dyke)

6. "The angels shall ride our clanging bells." (Simmons)

7. "May the singing of these bells be the voice of our gratitude to Thee." (W. M. Irvine)

8. "Shall faintly hear
With inward ear
The chiming bell
Of his old school." (This quotation is from Henry van Dyke's "Ode to the Everlasting Boy" written at the centennial of the Lawrenceville School.)

9. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (St. Luke)

10. "The heart must bleed before it feels,
The pool be troubled before it heals." (Suggested by Dr. Nehemiah Boynton.)

11. "*Gaudia fides precum et laboris cano.*" ("Joys of faith, of prayer and of labor I sing.") (Henry van Dyke)

12. "Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth on the throne." (St. John)

13. "Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good." (Tennyson)

14. "There is neither speech nor language, but their voices are heard among men." (David)

15. "*Huc venite pueri ut viri sitis.*" ("Come hither boys, that you may become men.") (This inscription was on the original bell at Phillips-Exeter Academy, Doctor Irvine's Alma Mater.)

16. "May we be cavaliers of love
With eyes fixed ever on the light." (From a poem written by the late Kenneth W. Rogers, former alumni secretary at the Academy.)

17. "Sing to the Lord for He hath triumphed gloriously." (Moses)

18. "May God bless all
Whom we do call." (From an old English bell, cast two hundred years ago.)

19. "To work with morning song,
To rest with evening bells." (Henry van Dyke)

20. "My mortal music builds immortal dreams." (Archibald Rutledge)

"As a matter of pure sentiment, there were moulded into the largest, or tenor bell, two hundred twenty-three pieces of copper. All of these pieces were of more or less historic value and all were gathered from a wide variety of sources. Ancient copper coins, minted before the birth of Jesus Christ, were of Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Athens with a figure of Athena, ancient Rome showing a wolf suckling Romulus and Remus, ancient Bactria which is now Persia, Antioch in the time of Augustus Caesar, Carthage in the period when she was fighting Rome, Egypt in the days of Ptolemy III, and Nero. There were also three coins from the early Christian era, including a coin of Constantine the Great which was struck 'to the genius of the Roman people,' a coin of Diocletian, and a Roman cup-shaped coin from the reign of Gallienus, a Roman emperor who lived two hundred fifty years before Christ and who was killed by his own soldiers.

"Napoleon Bonaparte is well represented in this historic copper. There is a coin of his struck at Strasburg in 1814; a coin of Charles XIV of Norway who is known as Bernadotte, one of Napoleon's generals, and who married Napoleon's sister; a coin of King Joseph Napoleon of Spain. The value of this Spanish coin was eight maravedi. When Columbus began his voyage in 1492, he promised ten thousand maravedi to that member of his crew who should first discover land; a coin of King Jerome Napoleon which was used in Westphalia; a coin of King Joachim Napoleon which was struck and used at Naples; and last of all, a copper half-pence of St. Helena of 1821, the year in which Napoleon died on that island.

"Other heroes than Napoleon are represented in the collection. There is a copper coin of Gustavus Adolphus of 1628; an Irish penny struck in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a coin of Peter the Great; a copper coin from the Island of Goa off the coast of India where the tomb of Francis Xavier, the great Catholic missionary and explorer, was placed.

"In the carillon were moulded coins of a peculiar shape or quality, such as a Toweelah or Long Bit from the Persian Gulf. 'It looks somewhat like a hairpin, its prototype being the "long bit" which the pearl divers used to close their nostrils when they went below to search for treasure;' a piece of knife-money from China about 2000 B.C.—copper in the form of a knife was the first money used in China. There is a piece of gun money of James II, minted in 1689 A.D. Although it was made of copper, in his reign James decreed gun-money to be worth one-half crown. When William came to the throne, he made this coin to be worth one and one-half pence. There is a copper coin from Travancore, South India, worth one-seventh of a penny, one of the smallest coins in the world and struck for use in charity; a token from California, struck in 1849 and used as a five-dollar chip in card-playing; a Turkish mite, made to throw to the beggars at the Mosque of St. Sofia in Constantinople; a widow's mite, struck in the reign of Herod Agrippa, A.D. 37–44. On the obverse is a fringed umbrella. On the reverse are three ears of corn springing from one stalk in the field. This is the coin spoken of by Christ in the parable of the widow's mite.

"The Mohammedan world is represented in the copper of the Mercersburg bells. There is a small coin struck for the Sultan of Borneo in the Mohammedan year 1304, which would be the Christian year of 1888; also a copper dollar from the Sudan; a piece of ring money from Benin on the west coast of Africa. A Mercersburg alumnus who is the interpreter in the Royal Bank of Persia at Teheran and who is of Mohammedan birth sent a few Persian coppers for the bells; the Republic of Liberia in West Africa is represented. There is also a copper ring from the Swiss lake dwellings. This form of money is very rare and goes back more than one thousand years before Christ when the early people of Switzerland built their houses on piles in the lakes in order to get away from the wolves and their other enemies.

"There are coins from many distant countries such as Siberia in the reign of Catherine II, Morocco, German East Africa, Bengal, Sumatra, British Guiana, Sarawak—which is an old name for Borneo, the Boer Dutch Republic in the year 1892, with the head of Oom Paul on it, Australia, French Guiana, New Zealand, Madagascar, Portuguese West Africa, and the Prince of Wales Islands which are off the coast of Australia.

"There are also pieces of copper from many sources of real historic value as follows: a medal from Lord Nelson's flagship in the Baltic, *The Foudroyant*. This vessel was launched at Plymouth in April, 1798, and was wrecked at Blackpool in June, 1897. The medal was struck from the copper of the vessel after its breaking up. There are pieces of copper shells from the battlefields at Metz, St. Mihiel, Belleau Wood, Rheims, Verdun. There is a small medal of copper from *The Victory*, Admiral Nelson's flagship at Trafalgar; a piece of copper from the *U. S. S. Whipple;* also copper from *The Columbia,* the celebrated yacht of the late Pierpont Morgan which twice successfully defended America's cup; a contribution of copper by Sir Thomas Lipton from *The Shamrock IV* which challenged for America's cup; from the *Olympia,* Admiral Dewey's flagship at the Battle of Manila; from the *U. S. S. Indiana,* the *U. S. S. Iowa,* and the *U. S. S. Massachusetts,* three battleships of the Spanish War; from the *U. S. S. Oregon,* the queen of the American Navy which rounded Cape Horn in the Spanish War; from a German submarine captured in the World War; from the Presidential Yacht, the *U. S. S. Mayflower;* a piece of metal made from the armorplate of the Confederate ironclad, the *Merrimac,* which fought the *Monitor* in Hampton Roads—this metal is very rare; a piece of the antenna wire from the PN—91, the naval plane which flew from San Francisco to Hawaii in the summer of 1925. The late Commander John Rodgers, U. S. N., who had charge of the plane, contributed this piece of wire; a copper bolt from *The Constitution* or *Old Ironsides,* contributed by the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Curtis D. Wilbur; a piece of copper from a bell which was melted in the Baltimore fire. Undoubtedly the most valuable piece in the entire collection is a shaving of copper from the Liberty Bell. It will be remembered that in 1836, the Liberty Bell cracked when it was being tolled for the funeral of Chief Justice John Marshall. In 1842, skilled workmen bored out the crack and tried to repair it, but their efforts were not successful. One of those shavings of copper was melted into the tenor bell, giving to Mercersburg bells a sort of baptism or consecration, to the great ideal of liberty.

" Doctor Irvine, in selecting the pieces of copper, did not forget the personal element. A number of his friends contributed copper in various forms. There was a penny which the late George A. Wood carried in his pocket for many years, and on it was this inscription: ' Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute.' There is also a piece of copper from the first engine used in the Wood shops in Chambersburg.

Henry Bucher Swoope

Vice-President of the Board of Regents. President of the Alumni Council and Alumni Association. Mercersburg, '00.

This engine was constructed about 1842, by Mr. George A. Wood's father. Mr. S. G. Rupley, the retired tinsmith of Mercersburg, contributed a copper kettle which had been made from a large copper ball which for seventy-five years adorned the top of the steeple of the Union Church in Mercersburg. This building was occupied by the Lutheran and the Reformed Churches. When the church was torn down, Mr. Rupley's father secured the ball, split it, and made two copper kettles of goodly size. One of these kettles was given to the Academy by Mr. Rupley and a small piece of the kettle was cut out and put into the Mercersburg bell. Into the bell went also a piece of copper fishing wire which the Head Master himself used while fishing for lake trout at a depth of more than two hundred feet in the lakes of Canada. There is also a copper button from the overcoat of John Mann. John Mann was Doctor Irvine's maternal grandfather. He contributed an endowed scholarship about ninety years ago to the first institution which was organized at Mercersburg, namely, Marshall College.

"It is interesting to note that contributions to the Mercersburg chapel have been made by Roman Catholics, Jews, Christian Scientists, preachers of every known Protestant denomination, Confucianists, Buddhists, Mohammedans, Shintoists, and Brahmins. One of the Brahmin contributions was from Pundit Moti Lal Neehru, the righthand man of Ghandi in India. Nearly every state that has existed during the past two thousand years is represented in this collection. . . . It is the Headmaster's ambition to have Mercersburg speak a world note, and the copper in her bells undoubtedly will help him to reach his ideal."[9]

The Academy has been very fortunate in the selection of its carillonneurs. Anton Brees, brilliant young Belgian musician, played the first recital on the forty-three bells and remained with the Academy. He said: "It was here that I first learned that America had a soul." He left in November 1928 to become bellmaster of the Mountain Lake Singing Tower in Florida. On December 1, 1928, Bryan Barker, of Sydney,

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[9] *Ibid.*, July, 1927.

Australia, took up the work. Mr. Barker had been a student under Anton Brees in Loughborough, England, where the War Memorial Carillon is located.

The four-manual organ in the Academy Chapel, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Wood of Chambersburg, was the first present made to the equipment of the new structure. Dr. and Mrs. Irvine gave the altar in memory of their only son, William Mann Irvine, Jr., who died on his second birthday, December 21, 1900. The cross upon the altar was the gift of President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge in loving memory of Calvin Coolidge, Jr. The reredos, pulpit, lectern, font, pillars and pews and all other furnishings were loving memorial gifts of the many devoted friends of the boys of Mercersburg Academy. Even the grandfather's clock from the home of Henry Harbaugh, the author of the Academy Hymn, was placed as a memorial in the robing sacristy of the Chapel. A separate volume could be written and some day will be written about these memorials with all their sublime symbolism and personal associations. They make the Academy Chapel a sacred shrine of love and sacrifice to heroic and saintly souls.

The memorials to the Mercersburg men who died in the service of their country in camp and on the battlefield during the World War are a prominent feature of the interior of the Chapel. " In the Mercersburg Chapel, memorials have been placed to the men who died in the service. A bronze memorial tablet on the wall of the narthex contains the names of all Mercersburg boys who made the supreme sacrifice. On this tablet may be found the following inscription:

" ' *They whom this tablet commemorates were numbered among those who at the call of country left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom—*

Let those who come after see to it
That their names be not forgotten.'

"In addition to the bronze memorial tablet there are five double lancet windows above the altar placed in memory of Mercersburg boys who died in battle. They are as follows:

1. FRANCIS ROBBINS MCCOOK, '10
2. JOHN READING SCHLEY, '15
3. GEORGE NATHAN ALTHOUSE, '11
4. WILBERT WALLACE WHITE, JR., '07
5. BENJAMIN HARTLEY HEWIT, '01

"A clerestory window, the second from the front of the Chapel, at the right side, is given in memory of Harry Frederick Janssen, '10.

"There are also two windows under the eastern transept gallery to the memory of George Franklin Poffenberger, '09, and Ralph Talbot, '16.

"In addition to these, there is a large window above the gallery in the western transept entitled 'Heroic Christianity.' This window contains gold stars memorializing the fifty-six Mercersburg boys who died during the World War. It also contains the insignia worn by the alumni who served overseas as well as the twelve highest honors awarded to Mercersburg alumni." [10]

The stained glass windows of the Chapel are rich in sentiment and glorious in artistic beauty, variety, and harmony. Each window has its appropriate theme, scriptural or classical. Some of them are given by sons in honor of a living Mother; many of them are given by parents in gracious memory of faithful and courageous sons. These windows are the product of the finest artistic ability in stained glass in the Old and the New World. It is said that many people make special trips to Mercersburg to study the symbolism and the designs of these Chapel windows.

Several years after the Chapel was dedicated, a tablet was placed on the south wall of the east transept, bearing the following inscription which was written by Mrs. Irvine:

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[10] *Ibid.*, Spring, 1931.

THIS CHAPEL WAS BUILT
FOR FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD
BY THE GENEROUS LABORS
AND INSPIRED VISION
OF
WILLIAM MANN IRVINE
WHO WALKED WITH HIM
THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE
IN JOY
AND STRENGTH AND LOVE
HEADMASTER 1893–1928

The Mercersburg Chapel is the outward expression of a religious ideal which is real and vital in the life of the Academy. The crown of Mercersburg's work has ever been her religious life. Week after week, through the years, the foremost college preachers of America have occupied the pulpit of The Mercersburg Academy. Dr. Irvine, in his thirtieth anniversary address, said: "Certain sentiments of the Mercersburg spirit are created and inspired by the good preaching which is heard here from Sunday to Sunday."

With the building of the Chapel there was added to the curriculum of the Academy the Department of Religious Education. The practical side of Mercersburg's religious work is seen in her missionary activity. The school has had its own missionary in the foreign field for many years. The gifts of Mercersburg boys have brought blessings to thousands through the support of the work of medical missions, of leper hospitals, and of schools for boys in China, Japan, India, and Mesopotamia.

The spiritual power of the Mercersburg Academy Chapel and its influence on the lives of men who once were boys, and of boys who will soon be men, are fittingly expressed by two men who have felt that power and influence as they stood in the pulpit and looked into the faces of the hundreds of Mercersburg Academy students. Dr. Paul S. Leinbach, Editor of the *Reformed Church Messenger,* was moved to say: "I have seen nothing to compare with it. I think it is an outstanding achievement of faith, that the preëminent place on the campus should be dedicated to the proclamation of spiritual verities. It proves that The Mercersburg Academy puts first things first." [11]

Dr. Cornelius Woelfkin, a visiting preacher, spoke of the service in the Chapel as worthy of Westminster or St. Paul's of London. " On the hilltop it rises like the replica of a cathedral. It seems to aspire heavenward and certainly inspires earthward. The long-drawn aisle, the beautiful chancel, worshipful altar, and clerestory windows create an atmosphere where one may forget the fetters of his mortal chain and gaze wistfully toward the mystic horizon of eternity. This building is a contribution not only to the community but to the state and country and especially to all our colleges as a model. It has no equal in any college in this country." [12]

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[11] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.

[12] *Ibid.*, October, 1926.

CHAPTER XXX

Scholastic Mercersburg

THE Mercersburg institutions from the beginning have placed the development of character first. A vital part of this development has consisted in the maintenance of high intellectual standards. Scholastic integrity is essential in any school that would build character. It has been a matter of pride and tradition at Mercersburg for a century to emphasize the things of the mind. This was done in the early days when physical and material equipment was pitifully small. It is still the primary function for which Mercersburg exists. The Catalogue of the School states: "The aim of this school is to furnish the basis of a solid education and to teach the elements of Christian manliness. Boys may here be prepared to enter any university, college or technical school in America." The rigidness of its scholarship and the thoroughness of the quality of its work are recognized by the leading higher educational institutions everywhere. The Registrar, James Gelwix Miller, recently reported: "We are trying to make our students realize that they must pay the price of success. Success comes only by persistent hard work."

The scholastic success of the institution is full established. The Mercersburg Academy has six Rhodes scholars to its credit, Edward F. D'Arms, '21, Robert N. Cunningham, Jr., '21, L. Allan L. Scott, '24, Dudley Lee Harley, '27, James Miller Tunnell, Jr., '28, and Robert H. Michelet, '30; and has 688 alumni in attendance at 113 different colleges in this centenary year, many of whom are winning scholastic honors. Its alumni are found all over the world holding positions of honor in the field of the intellect. To mention only a few: James McCauley Landis, '16, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission; Dr. Paul Musser, '05, Dean of the

Edward F. D'Arms, '21
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Robert N. Cunningham, Jr., '21
La Moure, North Dakota

Laurence Allan Lory Scott, '24
Arlington, New Jersey

Dudley Lee Harley, '27
Martinsburg, West Virginia

James Miller Tunnell, Jr., '28
Georgetown, Delaware

Robert H. Michelet, '30
Washington, D. C.

RHODES SCHOLARS

College Department of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Howard R. Omwake, '97, President of Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina; and Dr. George Leslie Omwake, '95, former President of Ursinus College, Collegeville, Penna.

The standards of scholarship of the Academy are based on the standards of the College Entrance Examination Board. In a letter to his seminary classmates in 1923, Dr. Irvine said: " We are struggling all the time to improve our equipment, and at the same time, make our standards of scholarship more rigid than ever before. The College Entrance Board helps us constantly to push up our standards. As a result there are only ten or twelve secondary schools in America with standards as thorough as ours."

Dr. Edwards, in making a summary of the scholastic work of the Academy in February 1932, spoke of three things which tended to improve the scholarship: an increased study hall faculty; mid-year examinations; and a free help period, eliminating paid tutoring except under extreme cases of necessity. By a scientific system of personal rating reports from the instructors, and a frequent list of graphs from the Registrar, those in authority can see quickly and constantly the improvement in the scholastic conditions of the school.

Naturally, the maintenance of the scholastic standards of the school are dependent in large part on the ability, patience, and human interest of the faculty and officers of administration. Bliss Perry, in his recent book of reminiscences as a teacher, ventures the assertion that " a teacher's best work is a summary and application of all of his experience to the immediate teaching task." The members of the Mercersburg Academy faculty are men experienced in teaching.

In respect to time of service at the institution, first place is given to John Milton Drumm, the Treasurer of the Academy, who has been at Mercersburg since 1900. In 1926 the *Karux* said of him, " The auditors who each year examine the books of the Treasurer say that no bank or other business enterprise in the State of Pennsylvania makes a better showing with respect to thorough business methods and the fine appearance of its treasurer's books than does The Mercersburg

Academy. The credit for this excellent record is due to a man who is now finishing his twenty-sixth year of service at the Academy." Mr. Drumm started his career at The Mercersburg Academy as Secretary to Dr. Irvine on July 30, 1900, and continued in this position until the close of the school year 1904–05. In May 1905 he was elected Treasurer of the Academy, succeeding Mr. E. J. Bonebrake of Chambersburg, who was just then completing twenty-five years of service in that position. Mr. Bonebrake, however, though designated as Treasurer of the Board of Regents of The Mercersburg College, handled only the endowment funds, which at that time amounted to less than $10,000. Mr. Drumm began his duties as Treasurer immediately upon his election in May 1905 and has completed thirty-six years in the employ of the school.

The Registrar, James Gelwix Miller, came to Mercersburg in 1901. For more than twenty years he has been a representative of the Academy at the annual meetings of the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland. He has shown great ability in handling statistics relating to the scholastic records of the school.

Then there is Dr. Calvin A. Brown, the head of the Department of Mathematics, who came to Mercersburg in 1903. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College, and in 1922 received from that institution the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy, with the following citation: "Calvin Austin Brown, A.B., '03, Marshall Orator of his class. For nineteen years one of the most valued members of the Faculty of Mercersburg Academy, serving successively as Head of the departments of German, Chemistry, and Mathematics, and incidentally doing work in the departments of Physics, Biology, History, and Debating. He is also one of the Readers for the College Entrance Examination Board. His professional work is regarded as of the highest grade and his personal influence as of supreme worth."[1]

The head of the English Department, Dr. Archibald Rutledge, came to Mercersburg in 1904. He is nationally known not only as a great teacher, but as an author of high

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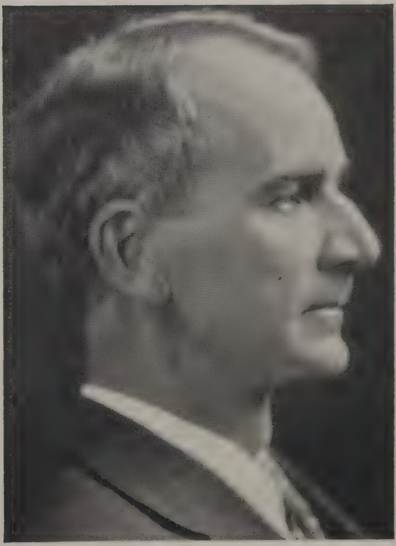
[1] Quoted in the *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, July, 1922.

Calvin Austin Brown, Pd.D.
Head of the Mathematics Department

John Milton Drumm,
Treasurer

James Gelwix Miller
Registrar



Archibald Rutledge, Litt.D.
Head of the English Department

rank. He is known and loved by thousands of boys whom he has inspired with an enthusiasm for the finest productions of English literature. He has published twenty-one books, and has contributed scores of articles to numerous magazines. In addition, he has edited five English classics for school use. The Governor of South Carolina, by authority of a legislative act, has appointed him Poet Laureate of that State. He received the John Burroughs Medal for the best nature writing of the year 1929. He has received degrees from Union College, Franklin and Marshall College, and Washington and Lee University. Dr. Rutledge is not only the foremost interpreter of the traditions and sentiments of The Mercersburg Academy, but he is the living representative of all that is best in the Mercersburg ideal for boys. He believes in boys and they believe in him.

And so one could go down the list. There is Herbert Morgan Rublee, head of the Commercial Department and Dean of Laucks Hall, who came to Mercersburg in 1908 and who has been since then the confidential adviser and trusted friend of hundreds of boys.

There is James Michael Curran, the prince of track coaches, who came in 1910; and Henry Gerard Hollon, " Traveller in Realms Geographical and Musical," who likewise has seen a quarter-century of service at the Academy.

If one were to touch on other departments in which are to be found men of long-time service in the school, one would have to write of the faithful Academy Steward, James L. Walker, who came to the Academy in 1900; and more particularly of the truly marvelous work in maintaining the health of the school of the physician, Dr. Bruce E. Nevin, who served the school with distinction from 1902 to the time of his retirement in 1936, in the day alike of small equipment and of a finely appointed infirmary.

Wilmarth I. Jacobs, head of the Physics Department, was appointed Assistant Headmaster in June 1935, succeeding Emory J. Middour, who resigned to become Superintendent of the Staunton Military Academy.

With these long-term servants of the school as a background, the institution has maintained continuity and acquired stability. Added to them are two score other teachers to whom credit belongs for maintaining the high standards of the curriculum. The following is a list of the Faculty and Officers of Administration, arranged according to years of service, who are now serving under the headmastership of Dr. Boyd Edwards:

John Milton Drumm	*Treasurer*
James Gelwix Miller, A.B.	*Registrar*
Calvin Austin Brown, A.B., Pd.D.	*Mathematics*
Archibald Hamilton Rutledge, M.A., Litt.D.	*English*
Herbert Morgan Rublee	*Commercial Branches*
Henry Girard Hollon, Mus.B.	*Piano*
James Michael Curran	*Track and Soccer Coach*
Milo Albert Gibson, A.B.	*German*
Roy Montgomery Andrew, A.B.,	*Discipline and Mathematics*
Wilmarth Irving Jacobs, A.B., Ed.M.,	*Assistant Headmaster*
Lucian Clark Bareham, B.S., M.L.D.	*Drawing*
William Douglas, A.B.	*Greek and English*
Robert Merrill Goff	*Secretary to Head Master*
Benjamin Frank Kulp, M.A.	*Spanish*
John Howard Montgomery, A.B.	*French*
David Ferdinand Chapman, A.B.	*History*
Rollin Proctor Gilbert, B.S.	*Chemistry*
Joseph Deihl Wilson, A.B., M.A.	*Mathematics*
Grey Huntingford Wyman, A.B., LL.B.	*Latin*
Daniel Heefner	*Alumni Secretary*
Frank Ellis Currier, A.B., Ed.M.	*French*
John M. Miller, B.S.	*Director of Physical Training and Swimming Coach*
Carl William New, B.A., M.A.	*Latin and English*
Clarence Luck Charlton, A.B., M.A.	*Biology and General Science*
George Frederick Hamer, Jr., B.S.	*Physics*
James Edmund Dandridge Murdaugh, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.	*English*

HARRY FRANKLIN SMITH, A.B., M.A. . . . . *English*
NORRIS W. GRABILL, A.B., M.A.
Mathematics and Tennis Coach
PRATT LORENZO TOBEY, PH.B.
Oratory, Public Speaking, Dramatics and English
E. ARNE HOVDESVEN, B.A., MUS.B. . . . . *Organ*
BRYAN BARKER . . . . *Carillon*
ROBERT RAMSEY BLACK, B.S. *French*
HERBERT MAYBERRY KEMPTON, PH.B.
French and Football Coach
FREDERICK ROLAND KUHN, B.S.
Mathematics, Baseball and Wrestling
PAUL L. YOUNG, B.S., *Voice, Orchestral Instruments and Band*
PRESTON F. AMSPACHER . . . . *Mathematics*
WILLIAM SAMUEL HILL, B.S., M.S. . . . . *Chemistry*

JAMES L. WALKER . . . . *Steward*
LEWIS H. HITZROT, M.D. . . . . *Academy Physician*
MISS A. M. FALLON . . . . *Librarian*
JOSEPH H. FUNK. . *Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds*
MRS. CLARENCE LUCK CHARLTON
Hostess, Administration Building
MISS MARGARET H. DAVIS . . . . *Infirmary Superintendent*
MRS. GRACE S. TOZER . . . . *Matron*

The scholastic life of the students is stimulated by the three literary societies of the Academy, the Marshall, the Washington Irving, and "the Scrub Society." Each member of the school is required to join one of these three societies, and to take part in the weekly debates. The annual inter-society prize debate, held on Washington's Birthday, has maintained the spirit of rivalry that characterized the societies of Old Marshall. They have all the excitement of a tournament. The following is the list of the best debaters since 1894—the winners of the Washington's Birthday contest:

(I indicates Irving Society, M indicates Marshall Society)

1894—H. H. Yocum I
1895—Simon Sipple I
1896—C. W. Christman I
1897—Leon Bachenheimer I
1898—J. F. Buchheit I
1899—W. E. Reddig M
1900—H. B. Swoope M
1901—I. B. Griffith I
1902—I. B. Griffith I
1903—P. R. Skinner I
1904—T. L. Holman I
1905—L. S. Zimmerman M
1906—A. L. Spangler I
1907—G. R. Wood I
1908—E. L. Douglass I
1909—E. L. Douglass I
1910—G. M. Moritz I
1911—G. M. Moritz I
1912—L. A. Wiggins I
1913—C. N. Balliett I
1914—J. P. Fishburn I
1915—Carlos de Zaldo M
1916—J. E. Lee M
1917—C. C. Lincoln, Jr. M
1918—C. C. Lincoln, Jr. M
1919—C. G. Goelz I
1920—J. B. Darby M
1921—Elbridge Walker, Jr. M
1922—M. H. Murphy M
1923—E. P. Serena I
1924—L. M. Baldwin M
1925—J. L. W. Dart M
1926—A. V. McClain M
1927—C. D. McCulloh I
1928—J. M. Tunnell I
1929—J. J. Stoudt I
1930—C. D. Sandusky M
1931—R. R. Fisher I
1932—R. W. Tunnell I
1933—C. H. Kearny I
1934—H. B. Clagett, Jr. M
1935—R. W. Cashdollar I
1936—(no award)

The Mercersburg Fifteen is a literary club composed of students who are elected to membership on account of excellence in literary studies and composition. The Academy has a local chapter of the Cum Laude Society, the preparatory school analogue of Phi Beta Kappa. Four publications are issued by the Academy: the *Mercersburg News*, the *Mercersburg Academy Literary Magazine*, the *Karux* (an annual), and the *Alumni Quarterly*. The list of the editors-in-chief of the *News* follows:

1902—L. S. Whittier
1903—R. J. Haley
1904—R. A. Collins
1905—A. N. Padgitt
1906—C. E. Sparrow
1907—T. D. Woodbridge
1908—C. A. Wolfes
1909—F. R. Lowell
1910—F. R. Lowell
1911—R. M. Krepps
1912—J. D. MacPherson
1913—J. P. Fishburn

1914—J. G. Elder
1915—J. E. Lee
1916—J. E. Lee
1917—L. L. Hill
1918—W. L. Alexander
1919—P. E. Allen
1920—R. S. Bachman
1921—M. H. Murphy
1922—Ledyard Avery
1923—S. S. Brooks
1924—H. J. Lerch, Jr.
1925—L. C. Trueblood
1926—J. W. DeVeau
1927—Stanley Omwake
1928—H. A. Sellery, Jr.
1929—Phillips Smith
1930—E. J. Davis
1931—D. E. Winebrenner, III
1932—D. E. Winebrenner, III
1933—R. S. Dillon, Jr.
1934—H. T. Hostetter
1935—J. S. Shirk
1936—J. G. Harrison

As a further incentive to scholastic activity the Academy gives one hundred different prizes annually for excellence in the various academic studies. The student who has the highest scholastic record is given the honor of delivering the valedictory on commencement day. The names of the valedictorians from the beginning of The Mercersburg Academy are inscribed in letters of gold on the walls of the Assembly Hall:

1894—H. H. Yocum
1895—C. W. Kremer
1896—C. W. Christman
1897—H. R. Omwake
1898—E. M. Mulock
1899—W. J. Wiest
1900—M. F. Eastman
1901—J. W. Spangler
1902—D. C. Schnebly
1903—R. J. Haley
1904—D. C. Willard
1905—F. N. Ankeney
1906—D. M. Smith
1907—D. C. Orbison
1908—J. I. B. Reiley, Jr.
1909—J. P. Knott, Jr.
1910—F. R. McCook
1911—G. M. Moritz
1912—C. S. Tippetts
1913—V. C. Welch
1914—J. P. Fishburn
1915—J. S. Whaley
1916—J. M. Landis
1917—C. A. Stroh
1918—K. H. Zabriskie
1919—P. E. Allen
1920—Albert Trepel
1921—E. F. D'Arms
1922—W. F. Shaffer
1923—K. H. Hinke
1924—J. H. Lerch, Jr.
1925—L. C. Trueblood
1926—W. G. LeGore
1927—C. D. McCulloh
1928—E. D. Lucas, Jr.
1929—J. I. Cunningham
1930—F. L. Baumer
1931—J. B. Schaner
1932—R. L. Williams, Jr.
1933—S. C. Hulse, Jr.
1934—C. E. Elting
1935—J. G. deBruycker
1936—J. R. Brueckel

The background of the fine scholastic standing of The Mercersburg Academy is found in the official administration of the institution, headed by Dr. Edwards and his distinguished Board of Regents. To be a member of the governing board at Mercersburg has always been regarded as an honor, from the days of 1839 when John Jacob Astor and Governor Joseph Ritner headed the list down through all the years. At no time in its century of history has the institution at Mercersburg had a more representative and distinguished group of educators in its governing body than at the close of this century of educational enterprise, in 1936. This in itself would guarantee the maintenance and development of high scholastic standards at Mercersburg.

BOARD OF REGENTS

MEMBERS

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WILLIAM MATHER LEWIS, M.A., LL.D., LITT.D., Easton, Pa.; President, Lafayette College; Formerly President of George Washington University.

PAUL H. MUSSER, A.B., PH.D., Drexel Hill, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1912; Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, University of Pennsylvania; Past-President of the Pennsylvania Association of College Presidents.

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HOWARD R. OMWAKE, PED.D., LITT.D., Salisbury, N. C.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1897; For fourteen years Dean of Franklin and Marshall College; President of Catawba College, Salisbury, N. C.

THE REV. EARL L. DOUGLASS, A.B., D.D., Germantown, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1909; President of the Board; Pastor of Summit Presbyterian Church, Germantown, Pa.; Formerly Trustee of the College of Wooster; Father of a Mercersburg boy.

JOEL T. BOONE, M.D., M.A., Commander, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy, San Diego, Calif.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1909; President of the Alumni Association; Vice-President of the Board of Regents; White House Physician during the Harding, Coolidge and Hoover Administrations; Surgeon at the Naval Hospital at San Diego, Calif.

THE HON. W. HEBER DITHRICH, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1906; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Pittsburgh, Pa.

JOHN L. FINAFROCK, Mercersburg, Pa.; Superintendent of Franklin County Public Schools, Retired.

JUNIUS P. FISHBURN, LITT.B., Roanoke, Va.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1914; Owner and former Editor of Times-World, Roanoke, Va.; Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

HANS W. NOLDE, Reading Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1914; Business.

THE REV. IRVIN A. RAUBENHOLD, A.B., B.D., York, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1911; Pastor of Grace Reformed Church, York, Pa.

HENRY H. SPANGLER, ESQ., Mercersburg, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1893; Attorney-at-Law.

HENRY B. SWOOPE, JR., A.B., Madera, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1923; Business.

D. A. STICKELL, Hagerstown, Md.; Business.

SAMUEL W. TRAYLOR, Allentown, Pa., Father of two Mercersburg sons; Owner of large enterprises in Allentown, Pa., California and elsewhere.

CHARLES M. WOOD, A.B., Chambersburg, Pa.; Alumnus of Mercersburg in Class of 1899; Business.

REV. PAUL M. SCHROEDER, Pastor of Salem Evangelical Church of Rochester, N. Y.

REV. GERHARD W. GRAUER, Minister of Phillipus Evangelical Church of Cincinnati, Ohio.

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD

JOHN MILTON DRUMM, Treasurer of the Academy.

Chapter XXXI

Athletic Mercersburg

THE spirit, the mind, and the body form the eternal trinity in the education of a boy. The chapel and the recitation room must be supplemented by the gymnasium and the athletic field if education is to cultivate the whole man. There was little of the athletic in the schools of the early nineteenth century. If Dr. Rauch and Professor Budd had trained their bodies as they disciplined their minds in old Marshall College, the probabilities are that both of them would have lived longer than thirty-five years. The athletic development of modern days is a real advance over the anemic, enfeebling period when pallor was considered a necessary accompaniment of student life.

No one saw this more clearly than did Dr. Irvine. Life to him was a battle from his student days. He was a strong man and he felt that education was intended to develop strong men. He believed that the severe discipline of the athletic field would help to bring the result of what the school was meant to represent in its motto "Hard Work, Fair Play, Clean Life."

For the first twenty years the Academy was under a handicap because of its lack of a gymnasium. Yet it is remarkable how many athletic victories were won by the Academy from 1894 until the dedication of its handsome gymnasium in 1912. In 1905 the Academy won for the third time and thereby permanently retained the Princeton Interscholastic cup; won a decisive victory over Exeter in baseball, thereby gaining full recognition in the class of preparatory schools with which she had set her standards; and also won the national championship relay race for preparatory schools at Philadelphia. In the same year Mercersburg held four American interscholastic records and more than a dozen interscholastic records at the various colleges.

In the 1906 baseball season, Mercersburg won fourteen out of fifteen games, including games with the Princeton freshmen, Exeter, the Carlisle Indians, Franklin and Marshall, the Yale freshmen, and the Pennsylvania freshmen. The track coach in 1906 was Thomas E. Burke, a graduate of the Harvard Law School, who had a remarkable athletic record. He made two world records, winning the 100 meters and 400 meters at Athens in 1896, and was the first victor crowned by a king of Greece at the Olympic games for over 1500 years.[1]

The annual fall field day sports and dinner during November have become a tradition at Mercersburg. At the field day dinner of 1907 Dr. Irvine, in responding to a toast, said that forty championships had been won by Mercersburg teams in ten years; twenty-five of these had been won since 1902; and nine of them within the year 1907. He further stated that at the different colleges and universities of the east Mercersburg held fifty-seven interscholastic records.

The first reference to a basketball team for Mercersburg is found in 1908. The season for the team was opened in a game with the Y. M. C. A. team of Harrisburg, January 16, 1909. The Academy won by a score of 53 to 28. In 1909 Mercersburg won the Yale meet, one of the fastest meets ever held in America. By winning the Yale cup for the fourth time, Mercersburg gained permanent possession of it. The trainer at the time was Dr. Kraenzlein, one of the best track coaches in the country. In 1910 the Academy had one of its most successful seasons in base ball. Nineteen games were played and every one resulted in a victory. By 1912 the gymnasium was built, with its rooms for boxing, wrestling, and fencing, trophy room, running track, and swimming pool. It is a magnificently equipped structure.

In this same year, Mercersburg carried off high honors in the eighteenth annual relay races at Philadelphia by winning the one-mile preparatory school relay championship of Amer-

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[1] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, November, 1906.

James E. Meredith, '13

"Ted" Meredith won the 800-meter race at Stockholm in 1912 Olympics.

Allen Woodring, '19

Winner of 200-meter race at Antwerp, Belgium in August, 1920. Time 22 seconds flat.

Barney Berlinger, '27

At Pretoria, South Africa, August, 1931.

William A. Carr, '29

Winner of 400-meter race, Los Angeles, Cal., 10th Olympiad, 1932; 46.2 sec.

OLYMPIC WINNERS

ica. The running of Ted Meredith, '12, was the sensation of the day. His time was by far the fastest ever made by a schoolboy, and considerably faster than that of any collegian. This race made Mercersburg the peer of any school in America in this branch of sport. The school was granted a holiday in celebration of the victory in the Penn Relays, which marked a milestone in the athletic history of the Academy.

Meredith was trained by the Mercersburg track coach, James E. Curran; he had entered Mercersburg in the fall of 1911 at the age of eighteen. Ted's most remarkable feat was at the Princeton Meet when he set two world's interscholastic records in the quarter-mile and half-mile races. He was chosen for the American Olympic team, and won the half mile (800 meters) race at Stockholm. " Perhaps the most spectacular victory of the games at Stockholm was that won by James E. Meredith, a school boy of Mercersburg Academy," said the New York *Outlook*. At that time, it was considered " the most wonderful contest ever run on any cinder path." Meredith described his feelings while running: " If these fellows want to get this back from me," he told himself, " it's going to cost them some energy that they'll need coming up the stretch." After he had finished the 800-meter race in one minute, fifty-one and nine-tenths seconds, he kept on running about five yards further and finished the half mile in one minute, fifty-two and one-half seconds, and thus secured two world's records in one race.

This was not the first time that Mercersburg had been represented in the Olympics. In the games of 1900 held at Paris, Mercersburg Academy was represented by Walter Drumheller, '97. He won third place in the 800-meter race. His bronze medal is in the Mercersburg trophy room.

At Athens in 1906, R. G. Leavitt, '04, won the high hurdles. While in Mercersburg he had won two American interscholastic records for the 120-yard and 220-yard hurdles.

In 1908, when the Olympic games were held in London, Mercersburg was represented by L. J. Talbott, '08, in the weight events, by T. R. Moffett, '01, in the high jump, and by W. C. Robbins, '08, in the 400-meter race. We have noted

Ted Meredith's great victory in 1912. There were no Olympic games in 1916; but in 1920 Mercersburg won the 200-meter race at Antwerp, Belgium, through the victory of Allen T. Woodring of the Class of 1919. His time was twenty-two seconds flat. The jerseys of Meredith and Woodring have been placed in the Mercersburg trophy room. Mercersburg was represented on the 1924 American Olympic team by Marvin Rick, '20, Charles H. Moore, '22, and W. J. Cox, '25.

Mercersburg Academy has had fifteen participants and four winners in the Olympics.

At a public dinner given to Jimmy Curran in Philadelphia during 1924 the statement was made that this canny Scot had probably produced more great runners and had had more influence on American athletics than any other preparatory school coach in the country. He put Mercersburg on the map athletically. For a time the Academy held every world's interscholastic record from the 100-yard dash to the two-mile run, in addition to numerous cross-country titles. The following are some of the records made by the Mercersburg lads in the first fifteen years of Jimmy Curran's career as coach at Mercersburg:

"World's records in the 800 meters, 880 yards, furlong and hammer throw; Princeton records in the high hurdles, broad jump, hammer, quarter, half mile and furlong; Yale records in the high hurdles, broad jump, hammer and mile; Pennsylvania records in the 100, 220 high and low hurdles, quarter, half mile, two mile, shot put, high jump, broad jump, hammer and javelin throw; Cornell marks in the 100, 220, quarter, half, high hurdles, broad jump, hammer and javelin throw, and numerous records hung up at Syracuse, Dickinson, Lehigh, Chicago, W. and J., F. and M., Johns Hopkins, State, W. and L., Swarthmore, and Tome School meets." [2]

In 1921 it was announced that "Stan" Keck, a Mercersburg alumnus, had been chosen by Walter Camp for one of the tackle positions on his All-American team. He was a member of the Princeton squad.

[2] *Ibid.*, July, 1924.

In 1922 the Mercersburg Academy swimmers broke four world records, and for the first time in the history of the sport one institution held all of the world's scholastic records. Charles C. Speer of Palm Beach, Florida, was Mercersburg's star and sensation in the swimming contests at the Yale and University of Pennsylvania meets.

At about the same time the New York *Evening Mail,* in describing the Mercersburg athletic system, said: " The prep schools of the country are doing a big work in the advancement of athletics in the United States.

" There is one in particular which is doing a big work. That is Dr. ' Buck ' Irvine's school at Mercersburg. Dr. Irvine, who was one of the great early heroes of Princeton's football, has encouraged athletics to a large degree and Coach Joe McCormick is carrying out these policies.

" There are about 500 boys in the school, every one of whom is required to go in for some form of athletics, and as many different branches of athletics as he is physically fitted for.

" The effect of such a policy is more clearly seen in a prep school than in a college, as the boys, especially those who have never had any athletic training, develop more rapidly." [3]

At New Haven in March 1924, Harry Glancy, '27, was crowned national interscholastic champion in the 220-yard swim and the 100-yard backstroke. In 1927, William J. Cox, '26, set a new mark for the six-mile run. He had represented the United States at the 1924 Olympics, and was the second American to finish in the 3000-meter race, which was won by Paavo Nurmi. In the same year Edward G. Cahill, '26, broke the world's record in the backstroke in the Carnegie Pool at New Haven.

Barney Berlinger, '29, received the Sullivan Medal in 1931, as the outstanding amateur athlete of 1930. He won the Penn Relay Decathlon Title. He was also a member of the 1928 Olympic team.

" When Bill Carr broke the tape for his record-breaking race in the Olympic 400-meter championship on July 2, 1932, he gave a performance which marked the culmination of his early career as a runner in Mercersburg Academy and added the fifteenth successful competitor to Mercersburg Academy's list of Olympic heroes since 1900. Among them are Walter Drumheller, '97, in the 800-meter in 1900; Ted Meredith, '13, who, when still a member of the Academy, broke the world's record in the 800-meter in 1912; Allen Woodring, '19, in 1920; at the Paris games in 1924 Harry G. Goelitz, '17, in the Decathlon, ' Big Bill Cox, '26, in the 3000-meter, Marvin E. Rick, '21, in the 3000-meter steeplechase. In 1928 Barney Berlinger, '29, of Mercersburg and Pennsylvania made the team but did not place. He won the pole vault in competition with France at a subsequent meet."[4]

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[3] Quoted *ibid.,* April, 1922.

On February 23, 1934 the Academy Track Team won the Governor Herbert H. Lehman Trophy with 24 points at the Eastern Interscholastic Championship Meet held at Madison Square Garden. This meet was sponsored by the Amateur Athletic Union. The trophy which was won by the team stands in the Administration Building.

Richard Henry Smith, '30, tackle on Minnesota's unbeaten football team, was given a place on six of the seven All-American football teams chosen in the autumn of 1935. On January 1, 1936, he took part in the East-West game played at San Francisco.

The latest record-breaker for Mercersburg is John Macionis, '34, who in August 1935, accompanied by Coach John M. Miller, went to Japan to take part in the swimming meet in Tokyo, in which the Japanese scored a victory over the Americans with a score of 36 to 27. Macionis likewise was Mercersburg's representative at the Berlin Olympics in August 1936. He was a member of the American 800-meter relay team.

The Los Angeles *Times* of January 28, 1935 paid this word of praise to the Mercersburg Academy Swimming Coach: " In his ten years as swimming coach, John Miller has lost but six meets. That's quite a record to shoot at. He came to Mercersburg from the Lawrenceville School. After his graduation from Princeton he tutored the Tiger frosh for one season."[5]

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[4] *Ibid.*, October, 1932.

The football team under Coach Herbert M. Kempton, the wrestling squad, directed by Frederick R. Kuhn, the tennis squad under Norris W. Grabill, the soccer team and the baseball nine of The Mercersburg Academy had successful seasons in 1935 and the first half of 1936.

While the policy of making records and winning games and trophies is encouraged, Dr. Edwards has recently outlined a more far-reaching program of physical culture: "The gymnasium is the headquarters for a wide-ranging program of service to the physical welfare and development of the entire school. All of the athletic programs of the school head up under a Director of Physical Training who is advised by a committee of the faculty on physical training, composed of all the coaches and certain members of the staffs of administration and instruction. The motto and motive of the school in this particular is 'Athletics for the Sake of the Boy.' All boys, unless excused for physical or medical reasons, are engaged in regular supervised play. Intramural athletics are highly developed. One hundred per cent of the entire membership of the school are regularly engaged at least three times a week in supervised play. This is all coördinated with interscholastic competition and helps greatly in contributing to the physical welfare, the general morale and the school spirit."[6]

The trophy room in the gymnasium vestibule, which has recently been furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Fulton of Lancaster, Ohio, contains the names of all captains and managers, records, and Olympic personnel of the school's athletic history; and a truly wonderful collection of prizes, cups, medals, banners, pennants, and laurels of athletic victories won by Mercersburg boys.

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[5] Quoted *ibid.*, winter, 1935.

[6] *Catalogue of The Mercersburg Academy, 1934–35.*

CHAPTER XXXII

Social Mercersburg

THE Mercersburg institutions have established delightful social traditions. For a hundred years the hostesses of North Cottage, and in early days of South Cottage, made the school in the little mountain village a center of social activities and festivities. This began when the four Moore sisters of Morristown, New Jersey, became by marriage Mrs. Daniel Young, Mrs. Frederick A. Rauch, Mrs. Andrew S. Young, and Mrs. Traill Green. Not all of them were in Mercersburg at the same time, but they helped to give the institutions a reputation for gracious hospitality and charming social activities. The same thing was true of Mrs. John W. Nevin, who brought to Mercersburg the fine traditions of the Jenkins family, the iron-masters of Lancaster County. Then came Mrs. Philip Schaff, a member of the Schley family of Frederick, Maryland. Both of these families frequently entertained James Buchanan and his niece, Harriet Lane. Later came a new family, the Motter sisters, daughters of Joshua Motter of Emmitsburg, Maryland, who by marriage became Mrs. E. E. Higbee and Mrs. J. B. Kershner, and brought with them all the quiet and refined dignity of one of the old families south of the Mason and Dixon Line.

In the summer of 1894 Mrs. Irvine came to Mercersburg as a bride, and the Headmaster and his wife took up their residence at North Cottage. She had been, before her marriage, Miss Camille Hart of Winchester, Virginia. Through the years of her life at Mercersburg Mrs. Irvine, with the assistance of her three charming sisters, and later of her two daughters Hart (now Mrs. John D. West) and Camille (now Mrs. Clarke W. Slade), made North Cottage a real home for thousands of guests. She established at Mercersburg the tradition of the School Mother.

In his thirtieth anniversary address Dr. Irvine said: " At the top of Mercersburg's honor roll, without any hesitation whatever, I am obliged to place Mrs. Irvine, the wife of the Headmaster. In many respects far beyond the achievements of any of the rest of us, she has been Mercersburg's greatest blessing. She does much executive work, having supervision of the Infirmary, the matron and the janitors, the Academy library, the flower gardens, the dining room and the kitchen, looking after the interior decoration of our buildings and directing the social life of the school. In certain years at North Cottage, including all who call and those who come to receptions, formal and informal, she has entertained five thousand people in a single year. She is also the school mother. With her charm and beauty she does her part to perfection. She advises boys in doubt and she is a haven to boys in distress. Her sympathies are about the biggest thing on the campus. I could not have done this work without her." [1]

Among those entertained by Dr. and Mrs. Irvine at North Cottage were President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge; Mrs. Herbert Hoover; Dr. Henry van Dyke; Dr. Hamilton Mabie; Dr. John Finley; Dr. John Grier Hibben; Dr. Woodrow Wilson; President William Howard Taft; Dr. John Watson (Ian Maclaren); Secretary of the Navy Curtis D. Wilbur; the President of the Cuban Republic, Dr. Domingo Mendez Capote, and family; Governors William Sproul, Gifford Pinchot, and John S. Fisher; and scores of college and university presidents and headmasters of leading preparatory schools.

The *Franklin County Repository* of Chambersburg, in an editorial concerning Mercersburg, said: " Doctor Irvine has had a wonderful helper. To the exceptional ability of Mrs. Irvine, this county owes much. To her is due the working out of many of the plans that have so beautified that beautiful green hill on which Mercersburg Academy has reared itself;

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[1] Quoted in *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly*, January, 1925.

and it would be an act of simple injustice not to include her in what Mercersburg Academy has done."

Mrs. Irvine's message to her Mercersburg boys is found in her words: "Fine things are in Mercersburg because of you." Her beautiful and gracious letter to the alumni after Dr. Irvine's death is a part of the history of Mercersburg worth preserving for future generations:

400 Elm Street
Chevy Chase, Md.

Dear Boys of Dr. Irvine's and mine:

This reunion will be a great event for Mercersburg as you now take up the responsibility which Dr. Irvine has laid down, and which I'm sure you will carry on. Into your strong, young hands and hearts is laid much of the care for the growth and power of the school, by sending boys, and money, and enthusiastic interest, and time, and above all your daily prayers for your old school, and the warmth of your love for it.

However, let no burden there defraud you of the joyousness of your youth, or the merriment of your boyhood at Mercersburg, so that your reunions will always be happy oases in your lives of serious work, and I hope you will visit there very often. Be co-workers with the school in helping to make boys into earnest, consecrated, strong men, doing much that, hitherto, you have trusted entirely to Dr. Irvine, and be as loyal to Dr. and Mrs. Edwards as you have always been in following Dr. Irvine.

As I think back over his life, it seems perfect, for he did his best every day, walking closer and closer to his Master, until he "walked with God: and he was not; for God took him;" so that his death was perfect without any of "the shadow of death." We can follow Dr. Irvine's life in power and beauty if we will do our best every day. If any one has been doing anything questionable in these years since graduation, or has grown indifferent to "the Master whom he loved and served with such passionate devotion," (as one of your number has said), let us start anew on this, his birthday, and draw near to his Master.

I might write on at length about his plans, or wishes, or a memorial, but my heart is too full, and I am still too dazed at this time. I want only to remind you of Dr. Irvine's eternal love and vital interest in all that you did, and in your family; and of the deep love that Hart and Camille and I send to you. There will be many other Mercersburg boys, but we shall not know them, although I hope they may all know Dr. Irvine in some way, and feel his inspiration over their lives, but you alone are ours.

With sincere and glowing love,
CAMILLE HART IRVINE [2]

On April 24, 1919 the wedding of Miss Hart Irvine, the elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Irvine, to Naval Ensign John D. West was solemnized in Keil Hall; and on April 19, 1927, the marriage of Miss Camille Irvine to Mr. Clarke Winship Slade of New York City took place. The Slade-Irvine wedding was the first to be held in the new Chapel.

From 1907 to 1928 it was the custom of Mrs. Irvine to present the boy having the best influence for good in the school with a gold cross. It was always given during the annual commencement exercises in the presence of the students and guests. The following is the list of the "Gold Cross Boys":

1907—H. J. Black
1908—J. M. Torrence
1909—E. L. Douglass
1910—F. R. Lowell
1911—G. R. Hanks
1912—C. S. Tippetts
1913—J. R. Sproul
1914—J. P. Fishburn
1915—J. S. Whaley
1916—J. M. Landis
1917—O. H. Hewit, Jr.
1918—C. C. Lincoln, Jr.
1919—R. G. Smith
1920—F. D. Whalen, Jr.
1921—G. L. Scattergood
1922—F. P. Weaver
1923—H. B. Swoope, Jr.
1924—J. M. French
1925—J. F. Miller, Jr.
1926—W. A. Moore
1927—S. E. Hockenbury
1928 { D. F. Coffin
G. H. Riley

Commencement functions, field day dinners, alumni reunions, the dedication ceremonies of new buildings, have furnished frequent opportunity for social gatherings in which undergraduates, alumni, parents, patrons, guests, and friends of the school join in delightful fellowship.

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[2] *Ibid.*, October, 1928.

With the coming of Mrs. Edwards to North Cottage in 1928, the tradition of human interest in the boys, of warm welcome to guests, and of gracious hospitality that has been characteristic of the residents of North Cottage for a hundred years was fully sustained. The influence of Mrs. Edwards is one of the great assets of the school. She is always ready to help boys and to encourage them in their work and as a hostess she is a model of courteous consideration.

Mrs. Edwards has established the custom of awarding, on recommendation of a faculty committee, a gold chain to a member of the senior class for character and service. The list of "Gold Chain Boys" since 1929 follows:

1929—J. R. Moreland, Jr.
1930—J. B. Lewis
1931—T. W. Wilson, Jr.
1932—D. L. Cameron
1933—H. F. Broadbent, Jr.
1934—J. H. White
1935—J. S. Shirk
1936—Harold Bellis

Through the years the town has mingled with the gown in many of the social activities of the school. The citizens of Mercersburg have ever been hospitable toward the friends of the Academy. One of the community organizations, known as the Avon Club, and composed of members of the faculty and leading men and women of Mercersburg, meets monthly for the discussion of papers read by members or invited guests. The Avon Club has become an established institution whose influence in the intellectual and social life of the Academy and the town is of great worth.

CHAPTER XXXIII

Artistic Mercersburg

DR. FREDERICK A. RAUCH gave a course in aesthetics to nine students at Mercersburg in 1840. He taught them the philosophy of beauty in nature and in art. He lectured on poetry, architecture, sculpture, painting, music, and the drama.

Modern Mercersburg has been trying to incarnate the spirit of beauty. It has produced poetry of a high order. It has Gothic architecture that inspires reverence. It has the finest of music, and its collections of portraits and paintings will some day make it a center of the fine arts.

The natural surroundings of the Academy have already been described. Beauty in nature is at its best in the Cumberland Valley. Mercersburg is a place of wonderful environment, including fertile fields, the loveliness of the Blue Ridge Mountains with Mount Parnell rising in solitary grandeur, the undulating ranges of the Tuscaroras, the winding Conococheague, and the trout streams running through the Cove. As one stands at the front door of the Mercersburg Academy Chapel and looks over the surrounding mountains and down upon the ancient village resting peacefully at the foot of the hill, he is inclined to think of the valleys of Italy, or of Switzerland.

The Academy campus, containing 283 acres, is a pageant of beauty with its formal and informal gardens, spacious playing-fields, groves of young evergreens, flowering shrubs, including the red-bud and the dogwood, velvet lawns, rustic arbors, rock gardens with quiet pools, sun-dials and restful benches. The campus is the work of a generation, and is especially interesting to a lover of trees, not only because of the variety but also because of the historical association of the trees. There are sentiment and tradition as well as symmetry and shade in the trees of the Mercersburg campus. When Dr. and Mrs. Irvine returned from Great Britain they brought back with them English elms from a number of historic spots in the British Isles, and planted them on the Academy campus. This list of historic elms is worth preserving:

Rugby School (from the island)
Peragon Field, Cheltenham
Blantyre, Scotland (Home of Livingstone)
Landport (Early home of Charles Dickens)
Cambridge (Kings College)
Waverley Abbey (old ruins near)
Bedford (Birthplace of Bunyan)
Long Walk, Windsor Castle
Warwick Castle
York (Norman's Mound of William, the Conqueror)
Westminster Abbey
Battlefield of Hastings
Field of Sachieburn (Stirling)
Henley on Thames
Westminster Palace Garden
Melrose Abbey
Loch Lomond
Roslyn Chapel
Harrow School
Blenheim Castle
Oxford (Addison's Walk at Magdalen College)
Eton College (Poet's Walk)
Edinburgh Castle
Tower of London
Field of Bannockburn
Ayr (Home of Robert Burns)
Battlefield of Stirling Bridge
Epworth (Home of John Wesley)
Churchyard of Keswick
Holy Rood Palace, Edinburgh
Stirling Castle (Douglas Gardens)
Dove Cottage, Grasmere

Ely Cathedral Grounds
Twickenham (Home of Pope)
Oxford (Near Monument of Three Martyrs)
Greyfriar's Churchyard, Stirling
Battle of Westfield
Lichfield (Home of Samuel Johnson)
Stratford Churchyard (in which Shakespeare is buried)
Seedling Plants from the Original Sir Walter's Abbottsford
Beech grown from seed secured from Estate of the late Wm. Ewart Gladstone, Hawarden[1]

The gardens on the Mercersburg campus are an important part of the landscape. On March 26, 1935 Mr. Herman Collins, who writes under the name "Girard" in the Philadelphia *Inquirer,* described the annual flower show at the Academy. He said: "At least 50,000 tulips are clocked to burst into full bloom at the same time. Those who motor down the matchless Cumberland Valley miss a treat if they fail to stop at Mercersburg to see those tulips. You cannot find another tulip show in America to equal it." The same might be said of the gorgeous rose gardens.

On the gate of one of these gardens is found a brass tablet engraved with these words:

THESE GARDENS ARE CARED FOR
BY HER FRIENDS AT NORTH COTTAGE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THIRTY FOUR YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE
TO THE BEAUTY OF THIS SCHOOL
BY
CAMILLE HART IRVINE

The Boys' Garden, the gift of the Class of 1933, was constructed south of the Class of 1931 steps between the Chapel and the Administration Building. Mrs. Edwards is responsible for the more recent development of this charming garden, which promises to become one of the most delightful and restful spots on the campus.

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[1] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* August, 1912.

Several memorial fountains serve to enhance the beauty of the campus. The memorial fountain to Mr. Henry F. Irvine was the gift of the Class of 1900. He was the father of Dr. William Mann Irvine, and served for many years as Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings at the Academy. Here he found a splendid opportunity for the use of his remarkable talents as horticulturist and landscape gardener. The beauty of the campus as it is today bears abundant testimony to his skill and untiring care.

The John M. Cook Memorial Fountain is the gift of the Class of 1921, built at the end of the oval near the gymnasium. It bears the inscription

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN MARSHALL COOK
OF THE CLASS OF 1921,
WHO DIED ON THE EVE OF HIS GRADUATION.
IN MANY SPORTS, DISTINGUISHED;
IN FRIENDSHIP, NOBLE AND SINCERE;
THE PROMISE OF HIS LIFE WAS BRIGHT AS THIS FOUNTAIN,
THE GIFT OF HIS CLASSMATES.

Another feature of unique interest on the campus is the outdoor theatre, started in 1913. It has been used in more recent years by the Stony Batter Dramatic Club under the capable directorship of Mr. Pratt L. Tobey. The club produced Bernard Shaw's *Androcles and the Lion* during commencement week of 1935, and during the commencement week of 1936, the club took a leading part in a centennial pageant, *The Spirit of Mercersburg,* which portrayed in a number of scenes and tableaux the story of a century of education at Mercersburg. The Stony Batter Dramatic Club was assisted by members of the faculty and by citizens and ladies of the town in the presentation of the pageant.

A remarkable group of portraits and paintings have added to the beauty and historic interest of the buildings at Mercersburg. The walls of Assembly Hall are made attractive by the following portraits:

Dr. John W. Nevin's portrait was presented to the Academy by his daughter, Miss Blanche Nevin, of Lancaster, Pa. At the formal unveiling on Friday, May 8, 1914, the address was delivered by Dr. John C. Bowman, Professor of Practical Theology in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The portrait was painted by Miss Helen Thurlow of Philadelphia.

The unveiling of the portrait of Dr. Henry Harbaugh took place on October 20, 1906, when the Potomac Synod, then in session, visited the Academy in a body. The memorial address was delivered in Keil Hall by Dr. J. Spangler Kieffer. The portrait was the gift of Mr. Linn Harbaugh, Esq., Dr. Harbaugh's son.

The portrait of Thomas Alexander Scott was formally unveiled on June 4, 1907. Colonel Scott began his business career in Mercersburg. He was Assistant Secretary-of-War during President Lincoln's Administration and had entire charge of the transportation of the Union Army, which work he accomplished with conspicuous executive ability. Later Colonel Scott was President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and in his administration began the movement which finally placed the Pennsylvania Railroad among the foremost railroads of the world.

The portrait of Colonel Scott was painted by W. M. Chase, of New York City, the head of the New York School of Art. The portrait was the gift to the Mercersburg Academy by Mrs. Joseph E. Thropp, of Everett, Pa., a daughter of Colonel Scott.

On May 15, 1909 the portrait of Dr. David Hayes Agnew was unveiled. It was the gift of twenty of the leading physicians of Philadelphia, who were former pupils of Dr. Agnew.

It was a great privilege for the boys of Mercersburg and for the many guests of the occasion to hear the address of Dr. J. William White, Dr. Agnew's successor at the University of Pennsylvania, and one of the most eminent physicians of America. Dr. White gave a sketch of the life of Dr. Agnew, paying a wonderful tribute to the latter. At the conclusion of Dr. White's address, Dr. Irvine accepted the portrait very graciously in behalf of the Academy. Dr. I. N. Snively and Judge Gillan were other speakers.

Dr. Agnew was born in Nobleville, Pa., in 1818, of fine old Scotch-Irish stock. " He attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he was graduated as a physician in 1838. For a short time thereafter he practiced medicine near Mercersburg, making his home at Church Hill, three miles east of town. However, he soon moved to Philadelphia, where his remarkable talents were instantly recognized. He rose to prominence in a few years, and honors came fast upon him. In 1871 he was made Professor of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania, which post he held until his resignation in 1879. He died on March 22, 1892. At the time of his death, he was considered one of the greatest surgeons in the world; and there can never be many like him. As one physician said, ' Dr. Agnew's reputation has given an impetus to American surgery which will redound forever to the credit of the New World.' "[2]

The portrait of William McKinstry, through whose foresight and energy the first institution of learning was founded in Mercersburg, was unveiled in commencement week of 1921. The portrait was presented by his grandson, Mr. Claude B. McKinstry, of Minnesota.

On October 14, 1910 the portrait of the Hon. Thomas Bard McFarland was unveiled. This was the first time that the Academy had been honored with the portrait of a judge.

" Dr. J. G. Rose, of the Presbyterian Church of Mercersburg, was the orator of the evening. His address was highly interesting and dealt with all of the principal events of Mr. McFarland's life.

" Judge McFarland was born in 1828 on a farm, one mile distant from Mercersburg. He was graduated in 1846 from Marshall College, which was at that time located at Mercersburg. In after years when he was asked to speak on recollections of his college days, he spoke very loyally of his alma mater. Although he served the people of California faithfully, his heart and sympathy were with his Pennsylvania associates.

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[2] *Ibid.*, June, 1909.

After practicing law for a short time at Chambersburg he moved to California. He was elected to the Legislature of that State in 1856. The people, recognizing his ability, appointed him for the Judgeship in the District Courts. Mr. McFarland also took an active part along educational lines. He was a charter member of the Board of Trustees of Leland Stanford University. The last honor that he received was in 1886 when he was elected Judge of the Supreme Court of California. Serving in this capacity he gained great renown for his fair decisions and judicial opinions. At the time of his death in 1908 the members of the bar of California felt that they had lost a great help-mate and advisor.

"Dr. Irvine accepted the portrait for the boys of the academy in a few well-chosen words.

"The fact that there were present at the unveiling of the portrait, nine nieces, two nephews, six grand-nephews, five grandnieces, two great-grandnieces and twelve relatives by marriage of the late Judge McFarland made it most unique. . . .

"The portrait was the personal gift of Mrs. McFarland. It was painted twenty-eight years ago [*i.e.*, 1882]. It is one of the most highly-prized of family treasures. At the time of the San Francisco Earthquake, when the McFarland house was burned, this portrait was taken from its frame, and moved to a place of safety along with a few other pieces of personal property." [3]

The unveiling of the portrait of Lieutenant Commander Joel T. Boone, '09, U. S. N., took place in the gymnasium on June 3, 1924. Miss Suzanne Boone unveiled the portrait of her father. The portrait was painted by John C. Johansen, and was the gift of Commander Boone's Mercersburg classmates. The inscription reads as follows:

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[3] *Ibid.*, November, 1910.

PORTRAIT OF
LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER JOEL T. BOONE,
Medical Corps, U. S. Navy,
Mercersburg, 1909.

Awarded Congressional Medal of Honor and ten other decorations and citations for extraordinary Heroism at Belleau Wood, Soissons, St. Mihiel, Champagne and Meuse-Argonne 1918, where he served as surgeon with the Marine Corps, Second Division, A.E.F. The worthy heritor of an honored name, he glorified his professional skill on the fields of France with a radiant humanity, a rare fidelity, an intrepid valor. "May God Be Thanked Who Has Matched Us For His Hour."

"Addresses were delivered on the occasion by Major-General John Archer LeJeune, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, and Dr. Richard Derby, of Oyster Bay, New York, a son-in-law of the late Theodore Roosevelt. Both of these distinguished guests were superior officers of Dr. Boone's in France, and in portions of their addresses they paid stirring tributes to the 'radiant humanity, rare fidelity, and intrepid valor' of this Mercersburg hero."[4]

The unveiling of the portrait of Calvin Coolidge, Jr., took place in the gymnasium on June 2, 1925. The portrait was painted by Richard S. Meryman and was the gift of the students and masters at Mercersburg in 1925. The Hon. William C. Sproul presided over the evercises, at which Mrs. Coolidge, Mrs. William Sproul, and Mrs. Hills of Northampton, Massachusetts were special guests. The addresses for the occasion were delivered by Dr. Robert Bridges, editor of *Scribner's Magazine,* who spoke on "The Boy in the Valley," and by Dr. Irvine, who gave "An Appreciation." The portrait was unveiled by Mrs. Irvine.

The portrait of Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr., '11, was unveiled in connection with the commencement exercises of June 1927 by his mother, in the Academy Chapel. The addresses were delivered by Colonel James Barnes and Brigadier-General Frank Parker, Assistant Chief of Staff, U. S. A. The portrait was painted by Leopold Seyfferts of Chicago.

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[4] *Ibid.,* July, 1924.

The unveiling of the portrait of Lieutenant Ralph Talbot, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, was unveiled during commencement week of 1925. The portrait was painted by Edmund C. Tarbell of Boston, Massachusetts. The address on "Youth and Patriotism" was delivered by Major-General C. P. Summerall, U. S. A.

The portrait of a Marshall College student who became a distinguished officer in the Union Army and Governor of Pennsylvania, General John F. Hartranft, was unveiled during commencement week, 1916. The memorial address was made by the Hon. M. G. Brumbaugh, Governor of Pennsylvania. The portrait was painted by Paul Hallwig of Baltimore.

The portrait of Dr. Frederick Augustus Rauch was unveiled on May 30, 1911. The address was delivered by Dr. Richard C. Schiedt. The artist was Paul Hallwig.

The portrait of Camille Hart Irvine, by Richard S. Meryman, was unveiled on June 5, 1928 in the Academy Chapel. It was given to the school by the Mercersburg *News* in honor of Mrs. Irvine. The inscription reads,

CAMILLE HART IRVINE
SCHOOL MOTHER
SHE LOVED THE SONS OF OTHERS
AS HER OWN

The portrait was unveiled by Mrs. Irvine's two daughters, Mrs. Clarke W. Slade and Mrs. John D. West.

During commencement week of 1901 Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson presented the portrait of her uncle, James Buchanan, fifteenth president of the United States. The portrait was painted by William M. Chase. At the unveiling of the Buchanan portrait a special train was run from Philadelphia to Mercersburg, carrying to the ceremony friends and relatives of Mr. Buchanan, among whom was Mrs. A. T. Cassatt, a niece of the President.

The alumni who were enrolled in Mercersburg College presented the portrait of Dr. Thomas G. Apple, painted by

John W. Alexander, and that of Dr. Elnathan E. Higbee, painted by T. Carroll Beckwith.

The very first portrait to be unveiled in The Mercersburg Academy was that of General Hugh Mercer, painted by W. A. Graves of Warren, Pa. It was given to the Academy on November 9, 1899 by Henry W. Green of Princeton University.

Mr. Grier Hersh of York, Pa., presented the portrait of William Findlay, former Governor of Pennsylvania and United States Senator.

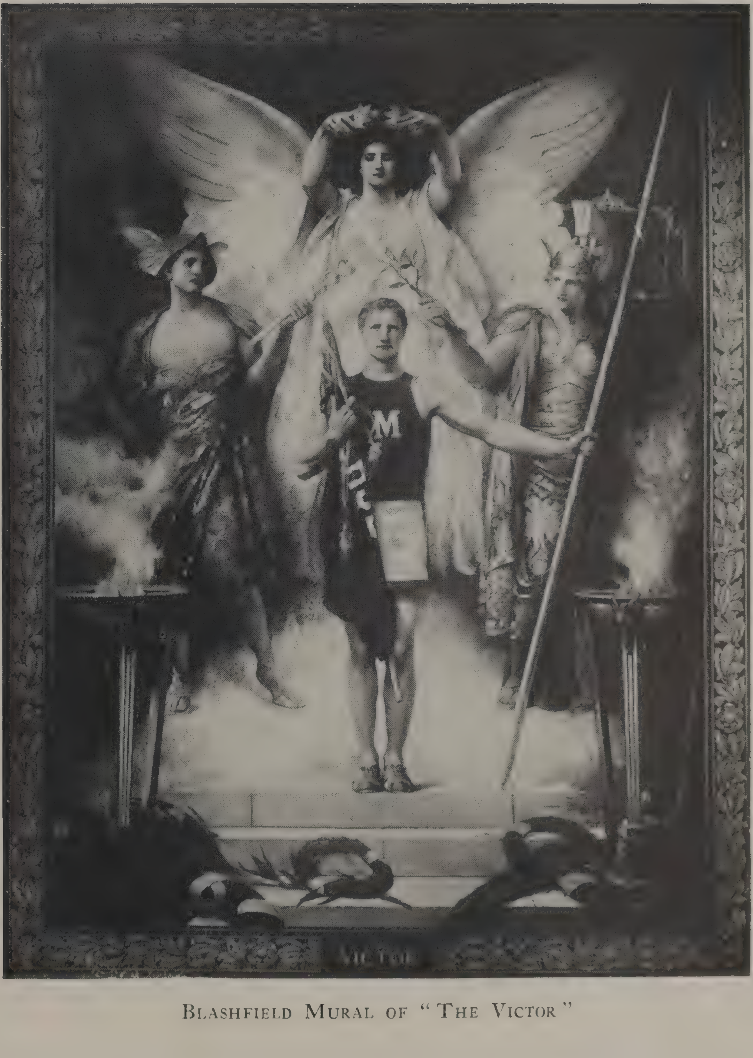
The portrait of Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh was painted by A. T. Van Laer. The Harbaugh portrait was painted by W. M. Marble of New York and was the gift of friends of the school.

The portrait of Dr. William Magaw was painted by Edward Simmons of New York and unveiled in June 1918.

In commencement week of 1923 the portrait of Lieutenant Wilbert W. White, '07, by Wayman Adams of New York City, was unveiled. At the same time that of Lieutenant George N. Althouse, '11, painted by Emil Pollak Ottendorff of Boston, was unveiled.

The Mercersburg *News* presented to the Academy a portrait of Dr. Edwards, the work of Margaret Fitzhugh Browne of Boston.

Then there is the truly inspiring symbolic painting by E. H. Blashfield which was presented to the Academy by E. W. Bok of Philadelphia. " It is eleven feet wide and fourteen feet high. The central figure is an Olympic victor wearing the royal blue track jersey of the Academy and on his breast the 'Varsity ' M ' in white. In his right hand he carries the school flag furled and in his left a vaulting pole. Above the ' Victor ' hovers a figure of exquisite beauty, ' The Angel of Victory,' and in her hands she holds a crown of olive which she is about to place upon the head of the ' Victor.' To his right stands Hermes, the Greek god of athletics and music. The Olympic games were sacred to Hermes, and the god extends his caduceus toward the ' Victor.' Hermes in the picture typifies grace, speed and skill. On the left of the young athlete stands Athena,



Blashfield Mural of "The Victor"

the goddess of Wisdom, portending a branch of palm; she represents the mental and spiritual attributes of the athlete.

" Mr. Blashfield . . . tied the picture to Mercersburg, not only by the colors in the jersey and the flag, but also by using as a model for the face of 'The Angel of Victory,' that of the younger daughter of Mercersburg's Head Master, and by putting into the body of the 'Victor' himself, the outlines of the figure of 'Ted' Meredith, a Mercersburg boy who in the Stockholm Olympiad not only won the 800-meter run but also broke two world's records in that race, namely, those in the half-mile and the 800-meter run." [5]

" Memories," a painting by Boyer Gonzales, an eminent marine artist of Galveston, Texas, was presented to the Academy by the artist's son, a member of the Class of 1927. It is a snow scene of the Mercersburg campus, with Main Hall in the foreground and Keil, Eighty-eight, and the Chapel spire in the distance.

Dr. R. Tait McKenzie, the internationally-known sculptor, has done remarkably fine portrait bronze statues for Mercersburg of Robert H. Michelet, '30, and of William A. Carr, '29, together with a plaque of Dr. Irvine.

Not only in the Assembly Hall, the Chapel, the Administration Building, and the Gymnasium do we find the finest artistic productions, but also in the dining room of Keil Hall, with its beautiful carved mantel, its paintings, mosaics, and hangings. These artistic productions show very clearly what Dr. Irvine meant when he said that the theory of education of The Mercersburg Academy was that life should be made beautiful as well as strong.

[5] *Ibid.*, May, 1914.

CHAPTER XXXIV

The Spirit of Mercersburg

PROGRESS is made by adapting new methods to old principles. The educational institutions at Mercersburg from 1836 to 1936, from Dr. Rauch to Dr. Edwards, have been based on certain principles—faith in the eternal verities, faith in the nature of a boy, faith in a civilization that is willing to make great sacrifice in order to make high-minded, useful citizens out of real boys.

The first President of Marshall College, Dr. Rauch, expressed this principle thus: "The fortune of our lives and our government depends not exclusively on useful knowledge but on our character as citizens, and to form this character by cultivating the whole man is the aim of education in its proper sense."

Dr. Irvine expressed the abiding principle of the Mercersburg institution in two notable addresses. On his twenty-fifth anniversary as Headmaster he said: "'The Head Master has always had the ambition that Mercersburg's influence should be powerful for good and should spread over the earth. Mercersburg boys are realizing that ideal for they are in every profession in the United States. They have been building railroads in Alaska, mining gold in British Columbia and silver at Cobalt, raising wheat in Saskatchewan, editing a paper in Hawaii, raising coffee in Honduras and Brazil, raising cattle and horses in Costa Rica, performing engineering feats in Panama, Peru and Brazil, superintending nitrate mines in Brazil, raising sugar in Porto Rico and Cuba, raising citrus fruits on the Isle of Pines, raising sisal and taking part in politics in Yucatan, and fighting in Mexico and Cuba. They are engineers in Japan, China, Australia and India. They are missionaries and teachers in India, China, Korea, Borneo, Syria, and the Philippines. Some are business men in Canada, London, Persia, San Juan and Havana. In the Great War, they have served in Persia, Mesopotamia, at the Dardanelles, Saloniki, in Egypt, Russia, Italy, France, Belgium, England, and the islands of the two great oceans. Truly Mercersburg boys are doing a man's part in the work of the world, and are serving their fellowmen, and pushing forward the wheels of progress the world over." [1]

On his thirtieth anniversary, in 1923, Dr. Irvine said: "The qualities which have brought success at Mercersburg have been Hard Work, Love of the Beautiful and the Good, Consecration to Service, and Belief in the touch of the Divine upon a man's life." [2]

Dr. Edwards' conception of the mission of The Mercersburg Academy is summarized in these words: "Inheriting a strong tradition of democracy, welcoming self-reliant, high-minded, ambitious boys from all across the nation and beyond the seas; instructed by a manly, friendly group of masters from nearly two score colleges; inspired by a wholesome, non-sectarian, reverent religious spirit; building character in partnership with parents; helping boys to learn to live clean, work hard, play fair; to govern themselves in honor and to serve their own sound welfare by serving their own community and its cause—these are the characteristic features of The Mercersburg Academy." [3]

The words "inheriting a strong tradition of democracy" used by Dr. Edwards do not constitute an idle phrase. The fact that The Mercersburg Academy has been able to aid a number of boys each year to work out in part their tuition and other expenses, has been an important element in the creation of a spirit of real democracy in this school for boys. "The spirit of Mercersburg neither recognizes nor tolerates social distinctions among the students. After dishonor, the one thing most at variance with the ideals of the Academy is snobbery. Boys do not pose; they do not put on airs. These are among the hateful practices that haughtiness gives birth to; and the atmosphere of Mercersburg does not foster them. It is well for boys from many localities and many conditions of life to meet on a common basis—that of a desire for knowledge. Here the son of the capitalist and the son of the laborer find mutual aims. Here extremes meet in harmony. Here many problems that puzzle statesmen are met and solved in a frank, boyish manner. It is well for the rich boy to know him who comes from a poor though honest family; he begins to see the other half of life, and he learns unselfishness. It is well for the boy of obscure parents to know the son of wealthy and prominent people; for it teaches him how blind he has been to feel a dull resentment against those who are in better circumstances than he. Such comradeship lies at the basis of a broad, wholesome, and helpful after-life. For these reasons, Mercersburg must be recognized as holding the unique position of the most democratic of the great schools. She is one of the most American of them all."[4]

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[1] *Mercersburg Academy Alumni Quarterly,* August, 1918.

[2] Irvine Memorial Volume, pp. 16–17.

[3] Preface to *Mercersburg Academy* [book of views], 1932.

The Spirit of Mercersburg is revealed in the motto of old Marshall College, *Lux et Lex;* in the motto of Mercersburg College, still cherished by Mercersburg Academy, *Via Crucis, Via Lucis;* and in the three other Latin words which have been chosen to express the ideals of this school for boys: *Integritas, Virilitas, Fidelitas.*

The Spirit of Mercersburg is found, too, in the loyalty of her sons, whose affection for their alma mater is expressed in the song they sang on the old steps, with the pillars of Old Main forming a background:

High tower above us her pillars,
  In majesty crowning the hill,
She has faced the wild storm-waves of years
  And bravely she faces them still.

Come, Mercersburg's sons, and we'll praise her;
  The world will we tell of her fame,
Till down the long train of the ages
  Shall echo old Mercersburg's name.

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[4] *The Spirit of Mercersburg,* Mercersburg, 1909.

This world, sweeping mightily onward,
  Shall whiten our hair with its years,
But ever we'll praise Alma Mater
  With full hearts and loud-swelling cheers.

There is something impressive in the reflection that for one hundred years boys have found their way to the same green hill in a little village in Southern Pennsylvania, boys coming from every state in the Union and from many foreign countries, boys of the third and fourth generation attending the same school in their most impressionable years, developing there the ability to learn and the desire to serve, the spirit of self-reliance, self-denial, and self-sacrifice, all that is contained in the idea of the spirit of Mercersburg—then going forth to college, university, technical school, or business activity, determined to become useful citizens and servants of their day and generation.

As the writer reflects on the long line of boys who have come up the walk to Old Main and New Main through all these years, and as he reads the letters of many of them proudly telling of their achievements in the great wide world—he feels like thanking God for the expression of His divine ideals of love and service in this school for boys, and he would like to offer a silent prayer that for many, many years to come, The Mercersburg Academy, with its emphasis on the true, the beautiful, and the good in life, may continue to bless multitudes of boys of America and of the world.

THE END

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